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REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SUMMARY

The present document provides an overview of developments in UNICEF programmes and operations in 1992. As with the report issued last year, the present report does not contain a separate chapter on external relations. The sections describing the support activities of the various external relations divisions have been integrated into the programme overview. Similarly, there is no separate chapter on inter-agency cooperation, as descriptions of such activities have been integrated throughout the text.

Chapter I reviews progress achieved in child survival, development and protection through major fields of activity, including primary health care, nutrition, water supply and sanitation, basic education and emergency operations. Major strategic components of UNICEF activities in 1992, including achieving the goals for children in the 1990s, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the high priority accorded to Africa, are also discussed in chapter I, in addition to other programme responses and support activities. Chapter II focuses on UNICEF operations, supply operations, administrative management, information resources management and internal audit.

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INTRODUCTION

1. In 1992, at least seven simultaneous emergency situations in as many parts of the world, including the horrors of Somalia and the former Yugoslavia, again brought home the message that the survival, protection and development of children must be paramount, whether in the midst of war and violence or in the course of the continuing struggle against malnutrition and disease. The proliferation of "loud" emergencies, against the backdrop of the largely preventable, everyday deprivation and deaths of some 13 million children every year, underscores the relevance of the global goals for children in the 1990s and the high cost of not achieving them. Despite the problems and set-backs symbolized most dramatically by emergencies, as the 1993 State of the World's Children report argues, it is possible - within a decade, if nations and their leaders so will - to end the evils of child malnutrition, preventable disease and illiteracy. Few causes are more urgent than overcoming these worst aspects of poverty that contribute not only to vast human misery, but also to fuelling the global population explosion, environmental degradation, political unrest and economic stagnation.

2. World-wide efforts towards achieving the goals for children in the 1990s articulated in the Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children continued to gain momentum in the past year. In various regional and inter-country gatherings, Governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) came together to consider ways of implementing and mobilizing resources for national programmes of action (NPAs). Prominent among them were the International Conference on Assistance to African Children (ICAAC), organized by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) at Dakar, Senegal, in November 1992; the Conference on Children's Welfare, Protection and Development held by the League of Arab States at Tunis, Tunisia, in November; the high-level Latin American meeting on NPAs held at Mexico City, Mexico, in October; and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Conference on Children in South Asia held at Colombo, Sri Lanka, in September. All regional summits of developing countries included consideration of children's issues. NPAs and the Convention on the Rights of the Child have become increasingly practical and important criteria for assessing priorities and strategies in national development plans and programmes, as well as the framework for UNICEF cooperation as reflected in the various country programme recommendations submitted to the Executive Board. The Secretary-General of the United Nations reported to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on his assessment of the follow-up to the World Summit for Children at the global, regional and country levels.

I. PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

3. In 1992, UNICEF cooperated in programmes in over 130 countries, the majority of which were in Africa (44), followed by Latin America and the Caribbean (35), Asia (34) and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) (14). In addition, in 1992 UNICEF expanded its programme of support to Central and Eastern Europe and the republics of the former Soviet Union. Programme recommendations for eight of these countries which meet UNICEF criteria for assistance will be presented to the Executive Board.

4. On the whole, developing countries maintained and improved the coverage of universal child immunization (UCI). At the same time, an increasing number of countries continued to build on the successes of UCI to develop integrated health systems, adopting the "UCI plus" approach that will contribute to the achievement of health and nutrition goals in the 1990s. Experience in recent years on the dissemination of the knowledge and use of oral rehydration therapy (ORT) and home-made solutions globally have given a boost to programmes for the control of diarrhoeal diseases (CDD). Over 65 countries have operational plans of action for the control of acute respiratory infections (ARI). The Bamako Initiative is operational in 25 countries, and many others are planning to adopt its approach for revitalizing primary health care (PHC). The UNICEF nutrition strategy, which focuses on both immediate and underlying causes, has been promoted globally. UNICEF continues to support innovative, community-based child-care arrangements and small credit schemes as key strategies to uplift the status of women. An increasing number of countries have integrated activities related to the prevention and care of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) into ongoing UNICEF country programmes of cooperation.

5. Other programme highlights of 1992 included mobilization for the "baby-friendly" hospital initiative and the protection of breast-feeding; the acceleration of water supply coverage rates in a sustainable manner; the formulation of policies and plans in many countries for the improvement of the education of girls and for moving effectively towards universal primary education; and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), at which many countries made the commitment to include an environmental dimension in development activities.

6. While significant progress has been made towards child survival and development (CSD) in many developing countries, serious obstacles persisted in 1992. Increasing democratization and political change were accompanied by periods of instability in many countries. Heavy debt burdens, adverse economic conditions and unbalanced economic reform programmes, civil unrest, drought, war and the lack of infrastructure all affected progress. In Africa, the challenge for UNICEF, the United Nations and other members of the international community remains undiminished. The almost $25 billion required annually to meet those challenges, two thirds from developing countries and one third from industrialized countries, must be mobilized. At the same time, the major task of donors to increase the percentage of official development assistance (ODA) to 20 per cent, with developing country Governments' allocations to those sectors reaching the same prcentage ("the 20/20 vision"), lies ahead. The Executive Board will want to review the actions taken and progress made in the past year, as well as the priorities UNICEF must deal with in the future.

A. Programme expenditure

7. Programme expenditure in 1992 totalled $744 million ($390 million from general resources and $354 million from supplementary funds). This represents a 26 per cent increase over the 1991 level and 27 per cent over 1990. This was distributed among different programme fields, as shown in table 1. As the figures indicate, expenditure for all sectors has increased numerically. Health remains the largest sector in regular UNICEF expenditure. Overall expenditure for 1992 was dominated by emergency assistance, which increased from $111 million in 1991 to $167 million in 1992, owing partially to the situations in Angola, Iraq, Mozambique, Somalia, the Sudan and the former Yugoslavia. Table 2 shows the emergency allocations added to total programme expenditure. It also shows increased UNICEF programme expenditures for water supply and sanitation.

8. Programme expenditure on emergency and rehabilitation, as shown in table 5, is distributed between health ($58 million), water supply and sanitation ($36 million), nutrition and household food security ($23 million) and children in especially difficult circumstances ($11 million). If those figures are combined, programme expenditure in health and water supply and sanitation have increased substantially. The share of programme expenditure on women across all sectors stabilized, as in previous years, at around 31 per cent.

9. The geographical distribution of programme expenditure is shown in table 6. Africa is still the region receiving the largest allocation. Emergency assistance for the former Yugoslavia accounts for the increased expenditure in Central and Eastern Europe.

Table 1. Total UNICEF programme expenditure by programme field

(In millions of United States dollars)

Programme	1970–1979 a/ Amount	%	1989 Amount	%	1990 Amount	%	1991 Amount	%	1992 Amount	%
Child health	31	34	203	40	251	43	202	34	228	31
Expanded programme on immunization			(114)	(23)	(150)	(25)	(98)	(17)	(106)	(15)
Oral rehydration therapy			(12)	(2)	(9)	(2)	(9)	(1)	(9)	(1)
Other health			(77)	(15)	(92)	(16)	(95)	(16)	(113)	(15)
Nutrition and household food security	9	10	28	6	29	5	31	5	32	4
Water supply and sanitation	16	18	76	15	82	14	73	12	84	11
Education b/	20	22	37	7	57	10	48	8	72	10
Other programme areas c/	5	5	35	7	41	7	39	7	53	7
Emergency	4	4	48	10	49	8	111	19	167	22
Planning, advocacy and programme support d/	6	7	74	15	75	13	87	15	108	15
Total UNICEF programme expenditure	91	100	501	100	584	100	591	100	744	100

a/ Annual average.

b/ Figures in 1990, 1991 and 1992 include young child development programmes.

c/ Consists of community development and organization, women's programmes and children in especially difficult circumstances.

d/ Consists mainly of planning and social statistics, advocacy and programme support.

Table 2. Total UNICEF programme and emergency expenditure by programme field

(In millions of United States dollars)

Programme	1970–1979 a/ Amount	%	1989 Amount	%	1990 Amount	%	1991 Amount	%	1992 Amount	%
Child health	31	34	229	45	267	45	245	40	287	39
Expanded programme on immunization			(125)	(25)	(154)	(26)	(110)	(18)	(115)	(16)
Oral rehydration therapy			(13)	(2)	(9)	(2)	(11)	(1)	(11)	(1)
Other health b/			(91)	(18)	(104)	(17)	(124)	(21)	(161)	(22)
Nutrition and household food security	9	10	31	6	36	6	45	8	55	7
Water supply and sanitation	16	18	81	16	88	15	93	16	120	16
Education c/	20	22	38	8	59	10	51	9	75	10
Other programme areas d/	5	5	48	10	51	9	51	9	69	9
Emergency – general	4	4	0	0	3	1	3	1	4	1
Planning, advocacy and programme support e/	6	7	74	15	80	14	103	17	134	18
Total UNICEF programme expenditure	91	100	501	100	584	100	591	99	744	100

a/ Annual average.

b/ Includes figures for emergency for health activities in 1990–1992.

c/ Figures in 1990, 1991 and 1992 include young child development programmes.

d/ Consists of community development and organization, women's programmes and children in especially difficult circumstances.

e/ Consists mainly of planning and social statistics, advocacy and programme support.

Table 3. UNICEF general resources programme expenditure by programme field

(In millions of United States dollars)

Programme	1989 Amount	1989 %	1990 Amount	1990 %	1991 Amount	1991 %	1992 Amount	1992 %
Child health	95	38	128	40	119	38	134	35
Expanded programme on immunization	(44)	(18)	(67)	(21)	(56)	(18)	(58)	(15)
Oral rehydration therapy	(8)	(3)	(6)	(2)	(6)	(2)	(7)	(2)
Other health	(43)	(17)	(55)	(17)	(57)	(18)	(69)	(18)
Nutrition and household food security	14	6	16	5	21	6	21	5
Water supply and sanitation	31	12	34	10	31	10	38	10
Education a/	29	11	47	15	35	11	55	14
Other programme areas b/	25	10	25	8	23	7	33	8
Emergency	3	1	8	3	16	5	23	6
Planning, advocacy and programme support c/	54	22	61	19	73	23	86	22
Total UNICEF programme expenditure	251	100	319	100	318	100	390	100

a/ Figures in 1990, 1991 and 1992 include young child development programmes.

b/ Consists of community development and organization, women's programmes and children in especially difficult circumstances.

c/ Consists mainly of planning and social statistics, advocacy and programme support.

Table 4. UNICEF supplementary funds programme expenditure by programme field

(In millions of United States dollars)

Programme	1989 Amount	1989 %	1990 Amount	1990 %	1991 Amount	1991 %	1992 Amount	1992 %
Child health	108	43	122	46	83	30	94	26
Expanded programme on immunization	(70)	(28)	(82)	(31)	(42)	(15)	(48)	(13)
Oral rehydration therapy	(4)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(1)
Other health	(34)	(13)	(37)	(14)	(38)	(14)	(44)	(12)
Nutrition and household food security	14	6	13	5	10	4	11	3
Water supply and sanitation	45	18	48	18	42	15	46	13
Education a/	8	3	10	4	13	5	17	5
Other programme areas b/	10	4	16	6	16	6	20	6
Emergency	45	18	41	16	95	35	144	41
Planning, advocacy and programme support c/	20	8	14	5	14	5	22	6
Total UNICEF programme expenditure	250	100	264	100	273	100	354	100

a/ Figures in 1990, 1991 and 1992 include young child development programmes.

b/ Consists of community development and organization, women's programmes and children in especially difficult circumstances.

c/ Consists mainly of planning and social statistics, advocacy and programme support.

Table 5. UNICEF 1992 programme expenditure on emergency and rehabilitation by programme field

(In millions of United States dollars)

Programme	Amount
Expanded programme on immunization	8.8
Oral rehydration therapy	1.6
Other health	48.1
Total, Health	58.5
Nutrition	14.6
Household food security	8.5
Water supply and sanitation	36.4
Education	3.3
Other programme areas	
Community organization/development	4.3
Women's programmes	0.3
Children in especially difficult circumstances	10.8
Planning, advocacy and programme support	25.7
Not distributed	4.2
GRAND TOTAL	166.6

Table 6. UNICEF programme expenditure by geographical region

(In millions of United States dollars)

Region	1970–1979 a/		1989		1990		1991		1992	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
Africa	19	21	170	34	216	37	210	36	284	38
Asia	52	57	204	41	233	40	200	34	250	34
Americas and the Caribbean	8	9	52	10	58	10	61	10	68	9
Middle East and North Africa	10	11	61	12	57	10	90	15	95	13
Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union							3	1	16	2
Interregional	2	2	14	3	20	3	27	4	31	4
Total	91	100	501	100	584	100	591	100	744	100

a/ Annual average.

B. Major strategic components

Achieving the goals for children in the 1990s

10. In 1992, UNICEF field offices in all developing countries were actively involved in supporting follow-up to the World Summit for Children by Governments and NGOs in pursuit of the goals and strategies for children in the 1990s adopted by the Executive Board. In 1992, the Executive Board invited countries to complete their NPAs expeditiously (E/ICEF/1992/14, decision 1992/13) and there has been very encouraging progress; nearly 80 countries have finalized NPAs and another 60 are in the process of doing so. Other United Nations agencies, international financial institutions, bilateral aid agencies and NGOs also have been involved in the preparation of NPAs. UNICEF work in this regard was carried out as part of its support to country programmes, which are increasingly situated within the context of NPAs as catalytic elements in a much larger national effort for children. NPAs, in turn, are conceived by many countries as part of their national development plans.

11. UNICEF headquarters and regional offices have been active in mobilizing the support of intergovernmental organizations, NGOs and donor agencies for Summit follow-up. High-level regional groupings in Africa, Asia and Latin America, several of them at the summit level, have endorsed continued pursuit of the goals. Three of these gatherings, the SAARC Conference on Children in South Asia, the League of Arab States Conference on Children's Welfare, Protection and Development and the OAU ICAAC, adopted feasible intermediate goals for achievement by mid-decade. Many National Committees for UNICEF have also been active in World Summit for Children follow-up in industrialized countries. A separate report on Summit follow-up activities will also be presented to the Executive Board (E/ICEF/1993/12).

Monitoring the goals for children in the 1990s

12. During 1992, a number of important steps were taken towards creating or strengthening structures for monitoring progress towards the goals of the World Summit for Children. Guidelines for field offices on monitoring progress in the area of maternal mortality reduction were developed and disseminated. Following earlier work on indicators for assessing breast-feeding practices through household surveys, 1992 saw the development of indicators on breast-feeding in health care facilities. A joint UNICEF/World Health Organization (WHO) expert meeting on the measurement of under-five mortality rates (U5MRs), both overall and by cause of death, resulted in a recommendation on measures to use in monitoring related goals and on additional actions to be taken.

13. The development of overall UNICEF guidelines on monitoring the goals was the subject of several documents and meetings with field personnel. As a result, a core set of indicators has been developed for monitoring goals, which provides a small, appropriate list of measures that will also facilitate comparison between countries. Because of the importance of collaboration with other agencies, the health-related indicators will be recommended for use by both WHO and UNICEF.

14. With the increasing attention on monitoring progress towards goals, the improvement of related data and estimation of levels and trends received

additional emphasis in 1992. A new approach to the estimation of both infant mortality rates (IMRs) and U5MRs has been adopted, which has led to the production of country profiles that identify both relevant mortality data and how estimates of levels and trends are derived. Preliminary results have been used in the State of the World's Children 1993 report, and a first complete set of estimates will be used in a forthcoming publication, the Progress of Nations.

15. As a result of work on malnutrition, country profiles on children who are underweight, stunted and wasted will be disseminated in early 1993. A status report on malnutrition, specifying situations by country, gender, urban and rural locations and age of children under five years, has been developed and will be published shortly. Preparations have begun for the next edition of the inter-agency publication, The World's Women, which will be an official publication for the 1995 International Conference on Women.

16. During 1992, the databases for producing the statistics used in the State of the World's Children and numerous other reports were updated, with particular attention to child mortality, malnutrition, contraceptive prevalence, breast-feeding and low birth weight. The format and contents of the first annual Progress of Nations publication for reporting on progress towards Summit goals have been identified and selected examples produced.

Convention on the Rights of the Child

17. Excellent progress continued to be made in the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and by the end of the year 127 countries had completed steps to ratify the Convention. UNICEF continued to emphasize the importance of children's rights through efforts to accelerate the overall implementation of the Convention, focusing on a number of areas. The first of these aimed at strengthening UNICEF capacity through staff training on children's rights and the Convention. Following the recommendations of the 1991 Executive Board, a comprehensive training package for representatives and senior programme officers was developed and tested in the field. Training workshops begun in 1992 will be conducted in every region by the end of 1993. Elements of the package also will be adapted for use by National Committees for UNICEF.

18. UNICEF also undertook a number of studies and research in the area of child rights in 1992. Following Executive Board decision 1991/9 (E/ICEF/1991/15), which called for studies exploring the linkage between women's rights and child rights, the International Child Development Centre (ICDC) in Florence, Italy, carried out an analysis of the complementarity between the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

19. UNICEF also improved its programme documentation in the area of child rights in 1992. Key internal guidelines for the preparation of country programmes have been amended to include standards set in the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In future, the situation analysis, in particular, will address the full range of needs and interests that must be met in order to achieve full implementation of the Convention.

20. UNICEF worked closely with a number of inter-agency partners and the Committee on the Rights of the Child. The Committee met informally outside of

United Nations Headquarters' locations to learn about what United Nations agencies are doing to promote the rights of the child and to meet with national and regional NGOs. UNICEF organized an inter-agency consultation at Quito, Ecuador, with the Government of Ecuador and the participation of the United Nations community in Latin America. Committee members travelled within the country and visited project sites. UNICEF also provided the Committee with supplementary information about the situation of children in countries that have submitted reports to the Committee.

21. Cooperation with external partners continues to be an important element in UNICEF efforts to accelerate implementation of the Convention. This has been focused on supporting some of the activities of these partners that are aimed at building public awareness about child rights and educating the constituencies of these organizations about the Convention and its implications for their work. In this regard, UNICEF helped to organize an international conference, sponsored by the NGO Committee on UNICEF, on discrimination against the girl child in education; included NGOs as active participants in the inter-agency consultation with the Committee on the Rights of the Child; and assisted international and national NGOs in developing a system of information sharing and experience exchange on child rights. UNICEF offices are working with parliamentarians, mayors, religious and professional groups and children themselves to increase their involvement in promoting implementation of the Convention.

Advocacy and social mobilization

22. Advocacy for children was made through many forums, such as the Tenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Jakarta, Indonesia; the SAARC Ministerial Conference on Children at Colombo, Sri Lanka; the Summit of First Ladies of Latin America and the Caribbean at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia; the French-African Summit at Libreville, Gabon; the Ministerial Meeting of the League of Arab States at Tunis, Tunisia; and the summit-level Group for South-South Consultation and Cooperation - known as the "Group of 15" - at Dakar, Senegal. The leaders of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, for example, stressed that the rights of children require special protection and promotion and invited UNICEF to follow up a study on the impact of structural adjustment programmes on children. The Colombo Resolution on Children urged member States to recognize the primary importance of the family and the household in the provision of services to children, and the Declaration of Colombia encouraged actions for the protection, promotion and support of breast-feeding and the "baby-friendly" hospital initiative. The "Group of 15" issued a strong statement on CSD.

23. NGOs played a vital role in ensuring that the needs of children - especially the most disadvantaged - were high on the agenda of major international conferences in 1992. UNICEF and its NGO partners worked together to ensure that issues concerning children were included in the agenda of UNCED. As a result of this joint effort, children's concerns are well reflected in Agenda 21, which includes many of the World Summit goals. Likewise, NGOs participated actively in the preparation process for the International Conference on Nutrition (ICN). Together with UNICEF, they supported the inclusion of quantifiable goals, especially those of the World Summit for Children, in the Conference Plan of Action. NGOs also worked to include

adequate attention to the "care" aspect of nutrition by addressing issues such as girls' education, breast-feeding and micronutrients.

24. Increasingly, children and their families have become the innocent victims of complex political, ethnic and civil disturbances that have followed the end of the cold war. As the United Nations system has accelerated its peace-keeping and humanitarian assistance efforts, UNICEF has played an important role in drawing attention to the needs of children in conflict. As children have been forced to pay an increasingly unacceptable price in emergency situations, UNICEF has continued its support with supplementary feeding, while stepping up its advocacy initiatives to ensure their protection. Over the last 18 months, the Executive Director has continued to use advocacy as a tool to create "humanitarian corridors" or "days of tranquillity" to protect women and children in conflict areas. These have included humanitarian convoys to Baghdad, the evacuation of 6,000 children from the besieged city of Dubrovnik in November-December 1991 and the "week of tranquillity" and winter relief campaign in the former Yugoslavia in November 1992.

25. The 1993 State of the World's Children report again proved to be an important instrument for advocacy and mobilization through its wide coverage by international and national media. The 1993 report called for a world-wide movement for children, arguing that it is possible to restructure the use of existing resources and raise new resources to bring an end within a decade to child malnutrition, preventable disease and widespread illiteracy.

Development with a human face

26. Global acceptance of the concept of development with a human face went a step further in 1992 as countries produced NPAs as a means of achieving the goals for the year 2000. The World Bank has recently stressed poverty alleviation as the primary objective of its work; its Poverty Reduction Handbook and Operational Directive recommend that for the year 2000, social sector targets in developing countries should be in line with those of NPAs. UNICEF provided assistance where necessary, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, to improve the costing and financing aspects of NPAs, although more efforts are required in this area.

27. The human development country initiative, launched in 1990 jointly by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNICEF and the United Nations Office at Vienna, resulted in 1992 in the completion of human development country plans in four countries - Bangladesh, Colombia, Ghana and Pakistan. UNICEF was particularly active in the preparation of the programme for Ghana. UNICEF also collaborated with UNDP on human development reports for Argentina and Botswana, where human development plans are under preparation, with strong local participation.

28. UNICEF efforts in inter-agency collaboration emphasized giving tangible form to the concept of development with a human face. The Human Development Report 1992 points out that under 10 per cent of ODA from multilateral and bilateral sources has been allocated to human priority concerns. In the past year, UNICEF has attempted to involve the World Bank in the NPA process, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, so that the World Bank and other bilateral and

multilateral agencies can direct a greater proportion of their resources to the social sectors, especially primary health and basic education. ICAAC was preceded by a joint review of NPAs in Ghana, Guinea, Uganda and Zimbabwe. This joint review process will be extended to other countries in 1993. UNICEF is also collaborating with UNDP and the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in examining the methodology for analysing development aid allocation for human priority concerns, and has suggested improvements in the creditor reporting system to DAC. With the other agencies represented in the Joint Consultative Group on Policy (JCGP) (UNDP, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)), UNICEF has, through the Subgroup on Adjustment, helped to formulate a proposal to be implemented jointly by the country offices of these agencies on monitoring poverty and the effects of adjustment policies on vulnerable groups.

29. To provide a strong analytical basis for UNICEF advocacy for children and other vulnerable groups, ICDC completed and published a study in English and French, entitled "Africa's Recovery in the 1990s", which sets out an alternative development path focused on human development. A similar study, focusing on eight Latin American countries and on public provision and state regulation in the social sectors, attempts to draw lessons for the 1990s from the region's experience in the 1980s.

30. In 1992, UNICEF made a serious effort to contribute ideas for making the process of transition in the republics of the former Soviet Union as humane and human as possible. In February-March, UNICEF mounted a mission to all those republics, except Georgia, and in October-November to Azerbaijan, Armenia, the Central Asian States and Kazakhstan. In individual country reports that were shared with the donor community at international conferences at Geneva, Lisbon and Tokyo, UNICEF argued that the enormous social gains made by those countries were currently at risk because of hyperinflation, the collapse of trade and the termination of budgetary subventions from the central Soviet budget that followed independence. Unfortunately, the donor response was inadequate. UNICEF itself has provided emergency assistance and, in line with Executive Board decision 1992/19 (E/ICEF/1992/14), has prepared country programmes for eight countries meeting UNICEF criteria for assistance. The need for a stronger donor response remains imperative, however, in order to ease the human cost and pain of transition and to protect children and other disadvantaged groups in the Caucasian and Central Asian regions.

31. The regional network on adjustment in East and West Africa remained active in 1992. UNICEF in-house capacity for dealing with macroeconomic issues and their implications for the social sectors and programme costing was strengthened by the creation of the Office of Social Policy and Economic Analysis at headquarters and the addition of economic advisers to the regional office staff in sub-Saharan Africa.

32. UNICEF continued its efforts for "debt relief for children" in 1992. Social sector programmes in Nigeria and the Sudan have benefited from swaps of commercial bank debt arranged by UNICEF, and in 1992 Jamaica, Madagascar and the Philippines were added to the list. To date, UNICEF has carried out nine debt conversion transactions; debt with a face value of $30 million has been converted into local currency valued at more than $10 million. UNICEF has

developed a degree of expertise in debt conversion and is in regular contact with the World Bank and other United Nations agencies to promote further use of this mechanism. UNICEF is currently developing additional debt conversion operations in more than 10 countries. Programmes selected for conversion funding are chosen from those included in UNICEF country programme and, therefore, have been developed and approved by the Government of the debtor country. By limiting the total size and spreading expenditures over a period of three or four years, UNICEF does not anticipate any adverse inflationary impact.

Reaching the poorest

33. In decision 1991/6 (E/ICEF/1991/15), the Executive Board requested an annual report on the situation of the poorest children and women, particularly those in the least developed and low-income countries, as well as on effective ways of providing them with basic services. In 1992, UNICEF continued to work on reaching the poorest through the process of country programmes and the implementation of NPAs.

34. According to the World Development Report 1992, poverty has persisted. Despite the substantial progress that has been made over the past 30 years in reducing the proportion of poor people in many countries, especially in Asia, the estimated number of poor people increased by about 80 million from 1985, to some 1,130 million in 1990. While there might be a small decrease in overall figures, by the year 2000 the number of poor people will increase significantly in sub-Saharan Africa, MENA and Latin America and the Caribbean (see table 7). Clearly, major changes in national and international policies are required to give more focused attention to this priority issue.

Table 7. Poverty in the developing world, 1985-2000 a/

Region	Percentage of population below the poverty line			Number of poor (In millions)		
	1985	1990	2000	1985	1990	2000
All developing countries	30.5	29.7	24.1	1 051	1 133	1 107
South Asia	51.8	49.0	36.9	532	562	511
East Asia	13.2	11.3	4.2	182	169	73
Sub-Saharan Africa	47.6	47.8	49.7	184	216	304
Middle East and North Africa	30.6	33.1	30.6	60	73	89
Eastern Europe b/	7.1	7.1	5.8	5	5	4
Latin America and the Caribbean	22.4	25.5	24.9	87	108	126

Note: The poverty line used here - $370 annual income per capita in 1985 purchasing power parity dollars - is based on estimates of poverty lines from a number of countries with low average incomes. In 1990 prices, the poverty line would be approximately $420 annual income per capita. The estimates for 1985 have been updated from those in the World Development Report 1990 to incorporate new data and to ensure comparability across years.

a/ Reproduced from the World Development Report 1992, p. 30.

b/ Does not include the former Soviet Union. Source: Ravallion, Datt, and Chen, 1992.

35. UNICEF assistance has generally focused on reaching poor and disadvantaged groups in order to achieve universal coverage of services or because the poor are the specific target of the programme, as in the case of area-based programmes in rural or urban poor communities, women's income-generating projects and services for children in especially difficult circumstances.

36. In general, the development of country-level goals in the course of preparing NPAs, in addition to the ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by most developing countries, provided an impetus to UNICEF efforts. Many countries have analysed the problems of children, identified the unmet needs of the poorest segment of the population and established national goals and cost-effective strategies for achieving them. The key strategies used in many countries include the acceptance of the principle of disparity reduction; the dissemination of relevant knowledge and information; the design of social safety nets to protect the poorest during the application of adjustment programmes; the decentralization of services; community-based programme strategies; and the targeting of impoverished areas and population groups through UNICEF-assisted, area-based programmes. Most NPAs highlight the difficulties and costs of reaching the poorest groups. In decisions about the phasing of implementation and optimal use of national

resources, some countries have considered the trade-offs involved in reaching the poorest and expanding coverage rapidly.

37. The least developed countries (LDCs) continued to receive priority in UNICEF country programmes, particularly in terms of resource allocation within UNICEF. During 1991, while only 14 per cent of children lived in LDCs, 43 per cent of programme expenditure was directed to those countries; UNICEF spent 110 cents per child in LDCs, compared to 36 cents per child elsewhere. UNICEF country programmes in LDCs also pay special attention to the poorest and most disadvantaged, as they do in other countries.

38. In Brazil, which has highly unequal national income distribution, the UNICEF country programme is almost entirely focused on actions aimed at reaching the poorest and most disadvantaged populations in the north-east and northern regions. In the current country programme for 1990-1995, 95 per cent of the budget in those two regions is allocated to programmes on child survival, education and early child development, children in especially difficult circumstances, women in development and environment. Another example is in Zambia, where the Government provides safety nets to the very poor and destitute, a social welfare fund targets female-headed households with small children and free food is distributed in drought-affected areas. Supporting such government initiatives, UNICEF provided technical and financial assistance for data collection and analysis for a social recovery fund project financed by the World Bank. In China, average income, literacy rates and IMR were the criteria for selection of counties covered by the maternal and child health (MCH) project. The Andean subregional programme of basic services against poverty, which encompassed poor areas in five Andean countries, is targeted to the regions inhabited by indigenous people whose income levels and social indicators are considerably lower than those of the rest of the population. In Sri Lanka, the programme focused on plantations where a large proportion of the country's most disadvantaged people live.

39. Integrated area-based programmes often serve the most socially and economically disadvantaged segments of the population. These programmes are undertaken in recognition of the existence of gross disparities and pockets of poverty that are unreached by any social service. In Ethiopia, for instance, four area-based programmes have been identified as an important means of poverty and disparity reduction. Experience has shown that credit schemes, grinding mills, income-generating activities, community health and day-care services, accompanied by capacity-building, have helped to alleviate poverty at the household and community levels. Moreover, local committees selected by communities assumed responsibility for project planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

40. Increased emphasis has been given to income-generating activities in area-based programmes, as these activities enhance the possibility of communities financing some of the social services. For UNICEF, income-generating activities for women are particularly important, as they enable women to contribute to their own well-being and that of their families. In Swaziland, in an area-based programme in one of the poorest regions, UNICEF-supported activities included training women in project management, group leadership skills, sewing, candle making and kitchen gardening.

41. Improving targeting capabilities in social services is crucial for reaching the poorest. The Government of Colombia, recognizing that social investment was not benefiting the poorest sectors but rather the middle class, initiated measures to identify social groups in poverty and genuinely in need of assistance as a key strategy in the current national development plan. UNICEF has been supporting this effort with a methodology to select the poor sectors in 31 large cities for identification of potential beneficiaries for the Presidential Programme for Youth, Family and Women. Indonesia, where UNICEF has been assisting various community-based services for more than a decade, is in the process of refining the targeting of government interventions, particularly at sub-provincial levels. UNICEF helped with the national socio-economic survey on including additional indicators, enlarging the sample size at the district level and establishing village profiles at the sub-provincial level.

42. In an effort supported jointly by the Government of Switzerland and UNICEF, the Evaluation Office is working with the International Movement ATD Fourth World on a study to identify and analyse conditions necessary to ensure the participation of poorer segments of society in development programmes. This study, which is still under preparation, will aim to put forward a series of essential conditions that could help development agencies to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of programmes specifically targeted at the poorer segments of the population. The study will investigate issues pertaining to empowerment of these groups and their full participation in the development process, thus contributing to sustainability. The first stage of the study has started with the identification of significant experiences and projects and data collection to prepare for a preliminary analysis in mid-1993.

43. The most important contribution of UNICEF to poverty alleviation is not what UNICEF does with its own limited resources, but rather how UNICEF, through advocacy, mobilization, demonstration of strategies and technical support, helps to reorient national objectives, efforts and resources to serving the needs of the poor. The key role of NPAs has already been noted. The debt conversion mechanism, which has so far benefited only a few countries in a limited way, has the potential to release major amounts of resources for programmes for the poor and will need increased attention from UNICEF in the future.

National capacity-building and empowerment

44. In decision 1992/23 (E/ICEF/1992/14), the Executive Board requested the Executive Director to ensure that national capacity-building be an integral component which is specifically addressed in all relevant UNICEF programmes in the areas of policy formulation and the selection of programme priorities, as well as the design, implementation and evaluation of national programmes and projects. The Board also requested that the Executive Director include in his annual report a section on measures taken with regard to national capacities.

45. Support for national capacity-building has been identified as a key strategy for contributing to the achievement of the goals for children in the 1990s approved by the Executive Board and endorsed by the World Summit for Children. UNICEF cooperation activities, focused on national goals and objectives for children and women far beyond the capacity of UNICEF financial and human resources, rely on indigenous capacity, competence and skills. Strengthening national capacity in relevant sectors is an essential component of

country programmes and is expressed both as a specific objective and as a strategy underlying sectoral programmes.

46. Both as specific sectoral objectives and as a programme strategy, aspects of capacity-building can be found in most country programmes. These include increased skills and competence of nationals; the development of cost-effective and sustainable programmes and projects without continuing external assistance; programme structures and organization that facilitate decentralization and accountability; and empowerment of people with knowledge and skills to participate effectively as beneficiaries and active partners in a programme.

47. The main tools for promoting and supporting those elements of capacity-building include: in-service training (usually short-term) of project personnel; demonstrations and experiments to develop, validate and propagate innovation; technical assistance that fills gaps in expertise and provide "hands-on" experience to nationals; planned international and in-country experience exchanges; operations research to bring together academics and practitioners; and participatory evaluation and monitoring with capacity-building as a specific aim.

48. Training of national personnel, a major component of UNICEF programmes of cooperation, is a means of enhancing programme sustainability and increasing the impact of external assistance. Most programmes include appropriate forms of training that fill critical gaps in knowledge and skills related to designing, managing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating programme activities. In some instances, as in China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, where national personnel did not have adequate exposure to international developments in social sector programmes, systematic experience exchanges for personnel in the social sector received special attention in the country programme.

49. The Bamako Initiative is an example of a generic UNICEF approach to national capacity-building which combines various elements such as analysis and assessment with the close involvement of nationals, training of personnel, demonstrations and experiments, technical assistance, where appropriate, and empowerment of communities through knowledge and participation in decision-making. Some 25 countries, mostly in Africa but also in Asia and Latin America, have adopted the Initiative's approach to enhancing national and local capacities for establishing and revitalizing PHC systems. While the Bamako Initiative is specifically concerned with PHC, the same principle of combining various relevant elements of capacity-building in a programme or a project can be found in other areas such as water supply and sanitation, basic education and women's programmes. The Bamako Initiative also illustrates the general principle that expansion and improvement of services are not only compatible with national capacity-building, but there is also an essential symbiosis between the two. Indeed, it is often in the process of organizing a new approach or for the achievement of a particular goal or programme that a community or district gains the experience that builds the capacity for achievement of other goals in the future.

50. In countries where the development of the educational infrastructure was constrained by colonialism or destroyed by war, UNICEF assisted directly in building key institutions. For example, in Namibia, where the newly formed Government struggled with ill-prepared and inexperienced personnel, UNICEF

helped to orient them towards organizational and management structures appropriate to the new political environment. UNICEF provided technical expertise for establishing a non-formal and adult education department that will provide training to regional and district literacy organizers and community education promoters. UNICEF also assisted with the creation of a training and research division in the Directorate of Community Development to train community development extension workers.

51. In a number of countries in Africa, a specific capacity-building effort for development planning and programming has been initiated based on the utilization of existing expertise in African institutions and universities. Special emphasis has been placed on linking available expertise to local government and communities in order to strengthen the latter's capacities for self-management and maintenance of social services. For example, the neighbouring countries of Uganda and Kenya have decided to form an African Universities Consortium for national capacity-building, with a focus on CSD. Nigeria's national capacity-building project, which is supported by UNICEF, aims to promote linkages between universities, local governments and communities to skills for planning and implementing CSD interventions.

52. National capacity-building and empowerment of people are related in that several key elements are common to both programme strategies. Knowledge and skills that help programme personnel to perform effectively also empower them to exercise judgement and take greater responsibilities, allowing programmes to be more decentralized and bringing decision-making closer to the people affected. Similarly, information and knowledge aimed at programme beneficiaries are empowering when they help people to demand and use services, enable them to participate in planning and managing programmes and enhance their capacities to make choices and safeguard their welfare.

53. The central idea of advocacy and social mobilization is to make people "pro-active", motivate them to assess options and take decisions in their own interest, individually and collectively, and inspire them to have confidence in the possibility of change and progress, thus enhancing their capacities and empowering them to act. In most UNICEF-assisted programmes, there is an emphasis on increasing the devolution of responsibilities, as in health and education programmes; focusing on and working with disadvantaged groups; area-based programmes with emphasis on local management; collaboration with local voluntary organizations; and other participatory approaches. These programme approaches nurture the capacity of communities to participate in shaping and implementing programmes and empower them to protect and promote their own interests.

Environment and sustainable development

54. The historic UNCED, and the adoption of the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21, were significant events in 1992. Of greater importance, however, was the massive mobilization and involvement of Governments, NGOs, politicians, citizens, women, children, indigenous peoples and industrialists in the process of re-examining their respective lifestyles and their impact on the fate of the Earth. UNICEF was an active participant in that process through its advocacy of human-centred, poverty-focused approaches to environment and development, both at national and international forums; through facilitating the preparation of

national reports to the Conference; and through campaigning for the active participation of children and women in the Conference and for inclusion of their concerns in its debates.

55. These issues are of great relevance to UNICEF activities in country programmes for establishing new partnerships and securing additional resources, and for communications and advocacy. Agenda 21 stated that "specific major goals for child survival, development and protection ... agreed upon at the World Summit for Children ... remain valid also for Agenda 21". 1/ UNICEF was given the specific responsibility of developing programmes for children as well as programmes to mobilize children and, together with the United Nations Development Fund for Women, to promote operational programmes and projects that will strengthen the participation of women, especially low-income women, in sustainable development and in decision-making. Strong emphasis was also placed on cooperation and collaboration with other organizations of the United Nations, Governments and NGOs and on regular consultations with donors. UNICEF has issued a separate booklet, entitled "Children and Agenda 21", summarizing the particular elements of Agenda 21 that focus directly on children.

56. Efforts are being made to include environmental dimensions in country programming. The poorest segments of the population have the greatest stake in maintaining the environment in a sustainable manner because their very survival depends on it. However, there must be concerted attempts to emphasize the creation of alternative livelihood opportunities for the poor through the protection and optimal utilization of natural resources. This is consistent with UNICEF strengths in the area of community-level action and the challenge posed to UNICEF by Agenda 21 to promote primary environmental care activities that address the basic needs of communities, improve the environment for children at household and community levels and encourage the participation and empowerment of local populations, including women, youth, children and indigenous people, towards the objective of integrated community management of resources, especially in developing countries.

57. Secondly, such action is complemented by the incorporation of environmental perspectives in the continuing effort towards Education for All. In the face of environmental degradation, basic skills for the enhancement of livelihood opportunities are becoming increasingly crucial. As a part of the learning process, curriculum design must highlight how traditional knowledge and other appropriate technologies could enhance survival and adaptive mechanisms and how sufficient opportunities could be provided to children, teachers and parents to put into action what has been learned. Empowerment through learning can follow only when such a process is pursued.

58. Thirdly, there is stronger emphasis in country programmes on advocacy and social mobilization to incorporate children's concerns into all relevant policies and strategies for environment and development at local, regional and national levels. That children are the most vulnerable victims of environmental degradation has already been recognized. It is now time that their active role as protagonists of and participants in environment and sustainable development be recognized and promoted. Children demonstrated the power of their voice at the Earth Summit and during the preparatory process. Politicians and citizens alike were profoundly moved by their expression of innocent but wide-ranging

concerns about the environment and their appeal that something be done about them urgently.

59. Advocacy and social mobilization must emphasize the linkage, now accepted by the environment movement, of the issues of poverty, equity and human resources development on the one hand, and the physical manifestations of environmental hazards, such as toxic waste, depletion of the ozone layer, deforestation and climate change, on the other. UNICEF is pursuing all opportunities to increase solidarity with the environment movement with regard to child survival, development and protection, especially by revitalizing existing partnerships and establishing new ones where needed with NGOs representing women, children, youth and indigenous peoples. As the Executive Board stated in decision 1992/31 (E/ICEF/1992/14), our planet must be preserved in order to nurture our children; and equally, our children must be better nurtured in order to preserve the planet.

United Nations operational activities for development

60. As part of its triennial policy review of operational activities for development, during its forty-seventh session the General Assembly adopted a major resolution on the operational activities of the United Nations system. General Assembly resolution 47/199 of 22 December 1992 is expected to be a landmark in promoting stronger inter-agency collaboration and could be an invaluable tool in strengthening the work of UNICEF. The resolution covers a wide range of areas, including particular innovations concerning a country strategy note and strengthening of the resident coordinator system. It approaches these issues through a philosophy of government-led coordination with the United Nations system, whose members collaborate on a teamwork basis, with each organization maintaining clear lines of accountability and management.

61. UNICEF has long argued that common goals and strategies (based on the priorities of the recipient country) are the fundamental starting-point for inter-agency collaboration and that too often a focus on administrative measures means that this key underpinning is overlooked. Addressing the Economic and Social Council in July 1993, the Executive Director stated his intention to propose to the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) that a United Nations country strategy be developed. In September, UNICEF made a detailed proposal which was ultimately accepted unanimously by ACC.

62. The General Assembly stressed that the country strategy note should be formulated by interested Governments, with the assistance of and in cooperation with the United Nations system under the leadership of the resident coordinator. Focusing on key development challenges, the country strategy note should take into account the contribution the United Nations system could make to respond to the requirements identified by recipient countries. The note should be transmitted to the governing body of each funding agency as a reference for the consideration of its specific country programme.

63. The Executive Director believes that the acceptance of the country strategy proposal is an important development which, if pursued vigorously, will greatly strengthen inter-agency collaboration. It is also an important opportunity for UNICEF to enlist broader support for child-related efforts such as the goals and strategies Governments have established in their NPAs. UNICEF intends to

promote actively the implementation of the resolution as a priority matter and hopes to be able to report decisive action by the United Nations system at the regular Executive Board session in April.

64. In resolution 47/199, the General Assembly also approved several measures to strengthen the functioning of the resident coordinator so as to ensure closer collaboration while maintaining the effectiveness and accountability of the individual organizations. One of the key measures is that in most countries a field-level committee, chaired by the resident coordinator, should be a coordinating mechanism to provide guidance and advice on key inter-agency programme issues. The Assembly also strengthened the resident coordinator role in programme planning and coordination by giving him/her the authority to propose to organizations amendments to country programmes and major projects to bring them in line with the country strategy note. There are also provisions to ensure that the field representatives inform, consult and take into account the resident coordinator's views during major programming exercises before reporting to their headquarters.

65. The General Assembly has also sought to widen the pool of professionals chosen as resident representatives/resident coordinators and to ensure increased transparency in the selection process.

66. Finally, the General Assembly emphasized that the separate identities and, where appropriate, the field representation of the individual organization should be maintained, and that in strengthening the resident coordinator system there should be no additional bureaucratic layer between organizations' field representatives and the Government.

67. A more detailed report on the implications of resolution 47/199 for UNICEF will be available at the regular Executive Board session in April (E/ICEF/1993/L.15).

C. Other major programme responses

Africa

68. The challenge for UNICEF in Africa remained undiminished in 1992, dramatized by several continuing emergencies on the continent. As noted in the report presented to the Executive Board in 1992 (E/ICEF/1992/L.4), achievement of the human goals for the 1990s in Africa would demand a greater rate of social change by the year 2000 than has been experienced in any region ever before in human history. The validity of these goals has been endorsed by African peoples and Governments at many forums, most notably at ICAAC.

69. The convening of ICAAC by OAU was potentially the most important event for children in Africa in 1992. This landmark meeting of representatives of 44 African countries, 18 donor countries and 18 intergovernmental organizations was a unique opportunity for African Governments and NGOs to put their own efforts for children and women in Africa on the international agenda. Through a series of joint OAU/UNICEF publications, the needs and possibilities for action in Africa were reviewed comprehensively and in each principal sector of action affecting children and women.

70. In the "Consensus of Dakar" adopted by the Conference, African countries made the commitment to reach several intermediate human goals by the end of 1995, to link NPAs with national development planning and financing structures and to continue the NPA process at sub-national levels. The Consensus also identifies the need for external assistance to place special emphasis on programmes for children and women in Africa, thus contributing to capacity-building at national and sub-national levels, achieving sustainability, particularly through empowerment of the community, and donor commitment. To that end, UNICEF will work in close consultation with OAU, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and NGOs active in Africa.

71. The commitment expressed by the Executive Board in decision 1991/13 (E/ICEF/1991/15), and reaffirmed in decision 1992/21 (E/ICEF/1992/14), to make Africa the region of highest priority is even more appropriate now than before, and the Board may want to review the actions being taken within UNICEF and by UNICEF partners to reinforce this priority. The Board will have before it a paper on ensuring child survival, protection and development in Africa (E/ICEF/1993/L.4), while the UNICEF response to various emergencies in Africa in 1992 is discussed in the report on UNICEF emergency operations (E/ICEF/1993/11).

72. Total UNICEF programme expenditure in Africa increased from $210 million in 1991 to $284 million in 1992, rising from 36 to 38 per cent of total UNICEF expenditure. The increase of $74 million represents a 35 per cent increase over 1991 expenditures in Africa, and is due primarily to increased expenditures on emergency programmes. While supplementary funding contributions to emergency programmes in Africa have risen by $72.7 million (from $40.9 million in 1991 to $113.6 million in 1992), supplementary funding contributions to regular programmes have dropped from $56.3 million in 1991 to $47.3 million in 1992. Given that over 57 per cent of 1992 emergency contributions are for just three countries in the Horn of Africa, the lack of supplementary funding contributions for longer-term child development efforts in other parts of Africa is a cause of increasing concern to the secretariat. The Board may wish to consider what special measures can be taken to ensure that UNICEF activities in support of capacity-building and sustainable development in Africa can be funded more effectively.

73. There are signs of renewed optimism in South Africa and of a negotiated political settlement in the near future, spurred by the recognition by all parties that a peaceful transition to a non-racial democracy is a prerequisite for reversing the downward trends in the country's economic and social conditions. UNICEF continues to work with democratic, non-racial NGOs to promote the rights of children and women within a new non-racial constitution; to assess the situation of children and women with a view to placing their priority needs on the agenda of the new South Africa; and to provide basic needs for the most seriously affected children, in accordance with decision 1990/9 (E/ICEF/1990/13). Through an inter-agency agreement, since the end of 1992 UNICEF staff have been attached to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in South Africa to coordinate UNICEF activities and to liaise more closely with the repatriation and resettlement of returnees, in collaboration with UNHCR and the United Nations Observer Mission in South Africa (UNOMSA). UNICEF continues to monitor closely political developments affecting children and women and is ready to establish a normal

operation in South Africa as soon as conditions permit. To that effect, provision has been made for the staff and non-staff costs of an office in South Africa in the 1994-1995 proposed administrative and programme support budget (E/ICEF/1993/AB/L.1).

Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union

74. In decision 1992/19 (E/ICEF/1992/14), the Executive Board authorized UNICEF to expand the focus and scale of its programme of support to Central and Eastern Europe, the Baltic States and the Commonwealth of Independent States. The Board also approved the development of national programmes of assistance for countries meeting UNICEF criteria for support. There are eight such countries: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Country programme recommendations for these eight countries will be submitted to the Executive Board. In 1992, a special representative was appointed for Albania, while the UNICEF representative for Afghanistan acted as focal point for the four Central Asian republics and Kazakhstan.

75. In response to requests from various Governments, in February and March 1992, six collaborative missions sponsored by UNICEF and WHO, with the participation of UNDP, UNFPA and WFP, were undertaken to the eleven republics of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the three Baltic States. The missions recommended that international support in the amount of $420 million should be provided in 1992 and 1993 for urgent health and human needs. Despite assistance from the international community during the past year, the needs are still enormous and the deteriorating situation continues to have a negative impact on children. The continued need for further assistance, particularly during the winter months of 1992-1993, was strongly highlighted at the Tokyo Conference on assistance to the newly independent States held in October 1992, at which UNICEF participated as a member of the United Nations delegation. It was estimated that a minimum of $25 million would be required for UNICEF to begin to address the emergency needs of children and women for the winter months.

76. Following Executive Board decision 1992/20 (E/ICEF/1992/14), in which UNICEF was requested to continue to provide, in coordination with other United Nations agencies, appropriate support to children and mothers who are victims of the Chernobyl disaster, UNICEF continued to participate in the United Nations Task Force for Chernobyl. To supplement its earlier contributions, the German National Committee for UNICEF contributed an additional $400,000 for activities related to Chernobyl, and UNICEF is currently pursuing with the Task Force the most appropriate use of these funds. A proposal for a cooperative programme with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on rehabilitation centres is also being considered.

77. The escalation of hostilities in the former Yugoslavia has produced the largest number of refugees and displaced persons in Europe since the Second World War. An estimated 3 million people, 80 per cent of whom are children and women, have become innocent victims of the hostilities that continue to rage. In August 1992, at the request of UNHCR, an inter-agency team undertook an assessment mission to the former Yugoslavia. The mission included representatives of United Nations operational agencies, including UNICEF, the donor community, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent

Societies and NGOs. The mission visited Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro.

78. Subsequently, an Inter-Agency Appeal for Humanitarian Assistance for the former Yugoslavia was launched on 4 September 1992. The consolidated appeal of $434 million covered priority needs for food, shelter and medical services for the next eight months. The total UNICEF portion of the appeal was for $42.5 million to provide emergency supplies, equipment and technical assistance prior to the onset of winter. The UNICEF emergency programme has been implemented through four temporary offices in Belgrade, Split, Sarajevo and Zagreb. During his visit to the former Yugoslavia in September 1992, the Executive Director secured an agreement for a "week of tranquillity" for children from 1 to 7 November. The week allowed UNICEF to bring in blankets, warm clothing, food and medical supplies for children in conflict areas before the onset of winter.

79. In 1992, UNICEF activities in Romania addressed both the problems of children in institutions and of those at home with their families through the provision of supplies and equipment, support to training programmes, policy studies and debate focusing on child-related problems and children's issues. UNICEF continued to support an inter-ministerial information clearing-house that promotes the exchange of information and ideas among the various agencies working in Romania. In November, a forum brought together all those concerned with the welfare of Romania's children to compare and evaluate approaches, policies and practices. A first draft of a situation analysis was completed. A recommendation for supplementary funding without a recommendation for funding from general resources (a "stand-alone" proposal) for 1993-1994 will be before the Executive Board (E/ICEF/1993/P/L.29).

80. In September 1991, UNICEF launched a $1 million emergency appeal for Albania, after which an emergency support programme was initiated. In August 1992, a mission to Albania was undertaken in collaboration with Defense for Children International (DCI), International Social Service and Caritas International. The purpose of the mission was to review the draft law on adoption and to assist the Government of Albania in preparing a comprehensive document for presentation to the Parliament.

81. During the past year, UNICEF provided support for a number of technical workshops and conferences in the region. UNICEF also continued to work closely with its NGO partners, particularly in Central and Eastern Europe.

Emergency operations

82. During 1992, UNICEF provided assistance to children and women affected by natural and man-made emergencies in some 56 countries. UNICEF also became involved in an unprecedented number of emergencies, including several large-scale and politically complex ones. The character of many of these emergencies was such that it was difficult to respond quickly and effectively with humanitarian assistance. Among the difficulties frequently encountered were increasing violence; hazardous security conditions, which prevented access to people in need and endangered the lives of UNICEF staff; insensitivity of the parties to a conflict about human rights and the far-reaching humanitarian consequences for the conflicts; protracted negotiations with the protagonists in

conflict situations; the collapse of public administration in some cases; international economic sanctions, with serious consequences for vulnerable population groups; and delays in financing or lack of funding. Under these trying conditions, UNICEF, in collaboration with other agencies and NGOs, is endeavouring to respond to the plight of children and women caught in emergency situations. Intensive and high-level advocacy efforts pursued during the year, including visits of the Executive Director to Somalia, Iraq and the former Yugoslavia, have enabled the delivery of relief supplies to children and women caught in conflict areas.

83. In the light of the lessons learned in responding to the growing numbers of complex emergencies and from experiences in working with the United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs (DHA) and its operational instruments, UNICEF is working to update its emergency policies, guidelines and operational directives in order to maximize its comparative advantages and respond effectively to emergencies. The major focus of these policies will continue to be the need for a continuum from relief to development, emphasizing disaster prevention, preparedness, vulnerability analysis, national capacity-building and community entitlement; these should receive increased attention in regular country programmes, particularly in countries affected by chronic emergencies. For example, in the country programmes for Angola, Bangladesh, Mozambique and the Sudan, there is a close linkage between emergency activities and long-term development interventions. It is true that UNICEF, responding to emergencies with its limited capacities and resources, has often focused primarily on the provision of supplies. UNICEF realizes its emergency programmes should be precursors to rehabilitation and development.

84. A major development during the year was the establishment of DHA by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. UNICEF remains fully committed to coordinated United Nations humanitarian assistance and is working closely with DHA. After almost a year, DHA and its leadership are facilitating a coordinated response to emergency situations, particularly to large-scale and complex emergencies. UNICEF welcomes the inter-agency consolidated appeal mechanism and the Central Emergency Revolving Fund (CERF), which is a useful cash-flow mechanism to initiate actions in major emergencies pending receipt of donor contributions in response to appeals. UNICEF also recognizes that some refinement is required for consolidated appeals and CERF to be effective funding instruments, allowing rapid and timely responses to emergencies. CERF and the UNICEF Emergency Programme Fund (EPF) are both necessary and mutually complementary. EPF provides UNICEF with a minimum level of capacity and flexibility to respond rapidly at the onset of emergencies, especially those for which no appeals have been launched.

85. The primary goal of UNICEF is long-term development, and thus the organization takes a long-term view of its involvement in emergency situations. Necessary directives will be issued to reaffirm and establish the continuum from relief to development in emergency and regular programmes, particularly in disaster-prone countries. More detailed information on UNICEF emergency operations and the implications of the reform of United Nations humanitarian activities for UNICEF will be discussed in a separate report to the Executive Board (E/ICEF/1993/11).

D. Major fields of activity

Primary health care

86. At the January 1992 meeting of the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy (JCHP), WHO and UNICEF were requested to prepare a report on organizing district health systems based on PHC. A draft was discussed at the inter-secretariat meeting in September 1992 and the revised format was presented to JCHP in February 1993. The report highlights the value of developing health systems to maintain the health gains made in the 1980s and emphasizes how successful programmes such as the expanded programme on immunization (EPI) can be a means of reinforcing district health systems.

87. UNICEF continues to use the Bamako Initiative as the main vehicle for strengthening health systems in developing countries. Many countries have continued to build on the successes of UCI to develop integrated health systems. For example, immunization programmes have provided at least five contacts between infants and health care providers during the first year of life. Several countries have begun to utilize these contacts to provide other interventions such as vitamin A and iodine supplementation, the promotion of ORT, guidance for mothers regarding treatment for ARI, the promotion of breast-feeding and prenatal care for pregnant women.

Immunization and the Children's Vaccine Initiative

88. During the past year, immunization coverage was sustained and improved in a large majority of countries. Most countries of Asia and MENA have begun to implement plans to eradicate polio, eliminate neonatal tetanus and control measles. The last case of polio detected in the hemisphere of the Americas occurred in Peru in September 1991. Polio-free zones are being created in East and South Asia, MENA and southern Africa.

89. UNICEF is supporting countries' efforts to strengthen their disease surveillance systems, which will be a key activity for achieving the decade's goals for disease control. These systems will facilitate reporting of any cases of polio within a few days of onset, and of measles and neonatal tetanus on a timely basis. Many countries have begun to "map" cases of neonatal tetanus and polio to identify high-risk areas where immunization coverage is low.

90. Some countries, mostly in sub-Saharan Africa, have not been able to maintain the high levels of immunization coverage reached in 1990. The reasons for the decline include civil unrest, drought and a lack of infrastructure. Attempts are under way to strengthen delivery systems to reach more of the population with routine outreach immunization near their homes. Continued social mobilization will be required until families understand fully the benefits of child immunization.

91. The disease control initiatives and increases in immunization coverage have increased significantly the requirements for vaccines and, during 1992 vaccine prices increased an average of 23 per cent. UNICEF has been working very closely with WHO and other partners to ensure that the additional vaccines will be available to developing countries. A situation analysis of global vaccine demand and production will be completed by early 1993. Large developing

countries that are currently producing vaccines are receiving support to improve the quality of their vaccines, and at the same time to increase production to meet their national needs. UNICEF continues to negotiate with suppliers to moderate price increases, and developing countries with the capacity to do so are being encouraged to begin to pay for their own vaccines through the Vaccine Independence Initiative. This initiative includes a revolving fund to pre-finance vaccine procurement and a facility for UNICEF to receive the payment for vaccines in local currency. UNICEF then uses the local currency for the country programme.

92. The Children's Vaccine Initiative, which was organized jointly by WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, the World Bank and the Rockefeller Foundation in 1991 to develop new and improved vaccines, has begun work on a more heat-stable polio vaccine and a single-dose vaccine for tetanus. Research is under way for an improved measles vaccine. A special task force is preparing a strategic plan for the collaborative work and a framework for setting research priorities to be followed by all collaborating agencies and organizations. UNICEF continues to be active in setting priorities and in operational activities related to immunization programmes. Donors other than UNICEF are providing financial support for vaccine research.

Control of diarrhoeal diseases

93. The CDD programme continues to receive attention from Governments, UNICEF and other international bodies. In spite of country-based activities throughout the world, 3 million children still die every year because of dehydration caused by diarrhoea. These deaths are totally unnecessary. Although the global ORT use rate has more than doubled from 17 per cent in 1985 to 38 per cent, it remains far lower than what can be achieved. A revitalized programme is needed at both global and country levels, and activities have been initiated for a universal CDD programme. The last decade, particularly the past few years, laid the basis for a sound programme. Countries are poised to accelerate the programme and make a significant difference to child survival.

94. During the last year, with the collaborative support of WHO and UNICEF, countries continued to train personnel for improved case management. A series of country-based reviews looked at national plans, goals and targets, training status and production and the availability of oral rehydration salts (ORS), all of which have led to a new impetus for the programme. Health services infrastructures have been better equipped with training and supplies to deal with diarrhoea.

95. Analyses of global and country-specific data reveal that countries need to address the problem of diarrhoeal diseases with greater emphasis and specificity. In the context of achieving the goals for CDD by the year 2000, it is clear that immediate action is required, both globally and at the country level. An intermediate goal for achieving high levels of ORT use - over 80 per cent in selected countries - was defined as an impetus to political and social mobilization, improved programme implementation and monitoring. Countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America have started monitoring ORT use rates at the national policy-making level, and in some cases at the highest political level.

96. Morocco is an example of an intensified national effort. After an analysis of the causes of child death in the country, the King of Morocco declared that deaths due to diarrhoea would be reduced to a minimum within two years. An initiative has been launched involving a revised communication strategy that focuses on family-level decision-making for ORT use, social marketing of ORS and training of health personnel. CDD in Morocco is being supported through inter-sectoral action and is a theme for social mobilization and community action to support every family through life-saving technologies related to diarrhoea management.

97. At the SAARC meeting held at Colombo in September 1992, heads of Government and representatives from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka identified several major areas on which to focus action for children and women, one of which was CDD. Countries are taking action to increase ORT use rates at home with active support from the health system, with a regional goal of 80 per cent use of ORT by the end of 1995. Country-specific plans were drawn up and activities were implemented for better communication, improved access and enhanced capacity for ORS production and distribution.

98. At a meeting held in Mexico in October 1992, 19 countries from Latin America met to discuss NPAs. A commitment was made to revitalize CDD programmes as a major priority in the coming years. Brazil is implementing a programme that emphasizes states with the highest mortality due to diarrhoea and that are the most difficult to reach. In these states, the Catholic Church and NGOs are taking the message of ORT to every home. Mexico is committed to achieving 80 per cent ORT use by the end of 1994. At ICAAC, African countries identified CDD as a major area for renewed action.

99. WHO continues to be a major UNICEF partner in all activities related to policy development, programme design and implementation, and other international organizations are becoming increasingly involved. In Mexico, an agreement was signed between the President of the International Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Health Minister. Through this agreement, activities will be undertaken to support ORT, especially in states where diarrhoeal diseases occur more frequently.

Control of acute respiratory infections

100. ARI, primarily pneumonia, result in the deaths of over 3.5 million children under five years of age every year. ARI are the single most important cause of childhood mortality in the world today. Over 65 countries now have plans of action for the control of ARI, and medical and paramedical workers are being trained in these countries. Programme reviews have been conducted in several countries. Reports show that the implementation of the ARI programme resulted in a marked reduction in the use of antibiotics for colds and coughs and in the use of X-rays for the detection of pneumonia in children. Ethnographic studies conducted to find out about traditional practices at home were used to generate messages to mothers on home care.

101. In collaboration with WHO, UNICEF continues to support these activities. Communication for improving the response to and treatment of pneumonia specifically, and ARI in general, has been an important activity in many countries. The ARI managers' meeting held in Bolivia was an important forum for

reviewing and modifying the programme in Latin America. A consultative group is being formed in the region to provide inter-country support for various ARI activities, including surveys, epidemiology, training and communication.

102. In several countries in Asia, an integrated package of services is being provided for child survival, with a distinct ARI component. Training, programming and management of services, drugs and logistics are taught and implemented as a single package of services. This results in considerable savings of resources. The Bamako Initiative, now operational in 25 countries, includes case management of ARI as an integral part of the programme. Drugs and logistics, which are very important and often neglected, form an important aspect of programme operations in these countries.

103. UNICEF and WHO are cooperating in the training of NGOs in sub-Saharan Africa. Considering that many areas in sub-Saharan Africa are difficult to reach, such support for NGOs is essential.

Strategy for the prevention of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immune deficiency syndrome

104. The global AIDS pandemic continued to worsen during 1992. WHO estimates that the number of adults newly infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) has increased steadily from less than 50,000 in 1980 to over 1.75 million in 1991, and will continue to increase for years to come. The geographic shift of the epidemic to Asia has become evident. WHO estimates that at some time during the mid-1990s, more Asians will be newly infected each year than Africans. The estimate of the impact of AIDS on women, children and young people should be revised upwards, given the large proportion of the world's population living in Asia and the continuous rise in heterosexual transmission of HIV in both the developed and developing worlds. The pandemic is taking a major toll on adolescents and youth, who represent an increasingly larger proportion of the population in the developing world.

105. Young people face increasing social, economic, peer and media pressures to adopt risky behaviour, including beginning sexual relations and substance abuse at an early age. The most vulnerable tend to be women and, above all, young girls. Unless special attention is paid to them, the impact of AIDS on the coming generation will be devastating.

106. During 1992, there was no significant progress achieved towards the development of a cure for AIDS. The emergence of HIV-related tuberculosis epidemics in several continents has exacerbated the situation. Prospects for a preventive vaccine remain remote. Preventive strategies limited to public information, education and condom distribution have failed to reduce the transmission and spread of HIV within and across continents. However, international recognition of the multi-sectoral dimension of the AIDS pandemic is leading to a revised global strategy emphasizing emergency medical responses and addressing societal conditions that have favoured the spread of the epidemic. Coordination and mobilization at global, national and community levels are key determinants of future success, given that resource requirements will be greater than during the first decade of the pandemic.

107. In 1992, the UNICEF AIDS Prevention Unit continued to work closely with the WHO Global Programme on AIDS (GPA) to strengthen global strategies and to develop an operational strategy framework for UNICEF country-level programming. A substantial amount of time and effort was allocated to inter-agency consultations to respond to newly developed problems related to HIV/AIDS. For example, UNICEF collaborated with WHO/GPA in responding to challenges raised by new studies and making a joint statement on breast-feeding and HIV transmission. UNICEF also participated in multi-agency consultations on reproductive health and promoting life skills and knowledge for youth. To respond to a request expressed both at the 1992 Executive Board session (E/ICEF/1992/14, decision 1992/26) and the eighth meeting of the GPA Management Committee, UNICEF participated in the process of formulating mechanisms to improve coordination of external assistance to country AIDS prevention and control programmes.

108. In close collaboration with the AIDS Prevention Unit at headquarters and with other United Nations agencies, the UNICEF Division of Personnel (DOP) has been working in the area of HIV/AIDS in the workplace. A UNICEF HIV/AIDS personnel policy has been drafted and a series of extensive training courses for headquarters staff begun. DOP is consulting with UNDP and UNFPA to plan and coordinate regional training workshops for United Nations field personnel.

109. At the regional level, UNICEF has organized workshops in eastern and southern Africa, West and Central Africa, East Asia and the Pacific and South Asia. The primary objectives of the workshops were to assess country office experiences in AIDS programming, as well as successes, constraints and lessons learned. A secondary focus was to adapt the operational strategy framework to a regional context. For each of the areas in which UNICEF focuses its AIDS prevention and care efforts, a technical support group is being created to facilitate the exchange of experience within and between regions, and with headquarters.

110. An increasing number of UNICEF country offices in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean have now integrated activities related to AIDS prevention and care into ongoing country programmes. For example, in Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and Zimbabwe, the youth AIDS prevention education programmes are integrated fully into the country programmes. UNICEF is playing a major role in social mobilization and communication for AIDS prevention in Kenya, Uganda, Zimbabwe and many other countries. UNICEF has supported operational research at regional and country levels. For example, the West and Central Africa Regional Office and the UNICEF offices in the Niger and Mali collaborated with Care International in a study of migration and HIV transmission in West Africa. The UNICEF office in Zambia has supported an important prospective study on syphilis control and child survival and is prepared to help integrate syphilis control into MCH programmes. In Brazil, Haiti and many African countries, UNICEF-sponsored programmes for street children and other children in distress now include a component for prevention of AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). In addition to collaboration with WHO, UNICEF has also strengthened its partnership with NGOs to support activities related both to AIDS prevention and to support for families and children affected by AIDS, particularly in eastern and southern Africa.

111. UNICEF communication and social mobilization strategies are increasingly subject to more rigorous design and pre-testing, including focused group

discussions with targeted audiences to assess needs and to guide the design of communication messages. This approach was used in the youth out-of-school programme in Rwanda, the safeguard youth from AIDS programme in Uganda and the street children programme in Brazil. Several channels of communication are utilized, such as in-school youth programmes, youth organizations, teachers' associations, parents' associations and social workers in Botswana, Burundi, Uganda and other countries. Other innovations include local development of video materials and delivery of AIDS-prevention messages through soap operas on national television.

112. The challenge remains for UNICEF country programmes to accelerate appropriate and effective intervention strategies within sectors and subsectors where past and present programme support activities provide a comparative advantage, such as in-school and out-of-school reproductive health promotion for women and youth, communication and social mobilization and family care and counselling. The AIDS global fund is used to support global strategy development, the mobilization of technical resources required to provide necessary support to country programmes and to provide bridging funding for HIV/AIDS-related programming for countries in the middle of programme cycles.

Women's health, safe motherhood and child spacing/family planning

113. An interregional training programme on women's health and safe motherhood was held at Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, in early 1992, with UNICEF field staff from all regions well represented. Since then, strategies have been developed for the reduction by one half of maternal mortality globally during the decade, using experience gained from CDD programmes. A policy report on family planning will be presented to the 1993 Executive Board (E/ICEF/1993/L.5). It will focus on knowledge and education for informed choice, promoting planned births as essential for both children's and women's health and integrating family planning with safe motherhood.

114. UNICEF is continuing its training programmes for traditional birth attendants (TBAs), public health workers and health volunteers. UNICEF has collaborated with WHO and UNFPA in producing a document, distributed to all field offices, which updates and attempts to overcome poor results from TBA training, as such training was not providing the desired results. UNICEF continues to be the largest supplier of iron and folic acid for pregnant women, providing supplies for millions of women each year.

115. Over 80 million women around the world are affected by female genital mutilation. While the psychological consequences have not been adequately surveyed, its physical effects can be devastating: infertility; pelvic infection; frigidity; and difficulties during childbirth. The practice and its effects vary widely, but it is tied closely to cultural practices and beliefs, involving difficult and sensitive issues of behavioural change. For example, in Guinea, where 80 per cent of women, including Christians, are "circumcised", the Health Department does not consider it a health problem.

116. The role of UNICEF has focused on information and education on the harmful effects of such practices, working with and through concerned national groups, especially of women. UNICEF often includes information about the effects of circumcision in the training programmes of midwives and TBAs, as in Nigeria. In

Djibouti, another country where women are at risk due to such practices, UNICEF supports the National Union of Djiboutian Women in a project that focuses on the abolition of harmful traditional practices, particularly female circumcision. In Guinea, the question of female excision is addressed in social mobilization and advocacy by discussing the rights of children and providing support to two local NGOs that conduct programmes related to excision and infibulation.

Women in development and the girl child

117. Many countries are strengthening their commitment to improving the social and economic status of women through various policy instruments. In the United Republic of Tanzania, a policy on women is being finalized by the Ministry of Community Development, Women's Affairs and Children. In India, the National Commission on Women, established in 1990, has begun advising the Government and monitoring legislation. In Colombia, the Government has prepared and is seeking approval for its Integral Policy on Women; it has also developed a Rural Development Policy on Women. UNICEF played an active role in supporting those processes for enhancing the status of women.

118. The past year has brought marked changes in the political participation of women, especially in countries where the emerging process of democratization has brought changes in Governments. Some improvements can be seen in the representation of women in decision-making positions. In Ethiopia, the Niger and Rwanda, the transitional governments appointed women to ministerial posts for the first time. Namibia increased women's representation in municipal councils. The Indonesian Ministry of Women established women's bureaux at the provincial level. Women themselves are taking up the opportunities created through democratization by mobilizing and organizing women to vote and to run for office. They are advocating that political parties place gender issues on their political agendas. In Kenya, UNICEF supported a workshop on gender and democratization for the media.

119. Similar gains were also made on the legal front in the past year. In the Philippines, the "Women in Nation Building" law became effective in 1992. In Namibia, the Local Authorities Bill was passed, establishing minimum representation of women in municipal councils. Zimbabwe ratified and Namibia acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. UNICEF advocacy and support were catalytic in bringing about these positive changes. In the Syrian Arab Republic, UNICEF supported the efforts of the Women's General Unions to advocate the issuance of new laws pertaining to women's welfare such as increasing the age of child custody, increasing the legal age of marriage for girls and extending the maternity leave period for women.

120. UNICEF advocacy on behalf of the girl child is providing a growing and catalytic focus for issues related to the girl child by Governments, NGOs and communities. Girl child studies carried out in Kenya and Morocco are contributing to advocacy efforts and awareness about constraints faced by the girl child, as well as improved programme responses to address the specific needs of the girl child. The scholarship and special sponsorship schemes for schoolgirls in India are examples of initiatives to increase opportunities for girls. Encouraging progress has been made in the efforts to change attitudes and beliefs and to dismantle structures that perpetuate discrimination against

women and girl children. However, the gender gap is still unacceptably wide, requiring massive efforts for the creation of awareness on the damage to nations, communities and individuals caused by preventing one half of the human race from achieving its full potential. Translating commitment into concrete results requires skills in gender analysis and the development of gender-responsive strategies, plans and programmes. It is with this in mind that UNICEF has accelerated its efforts to improve the capacity of its staff as well as government and NGO counterparts through gender training.

121. UNICEF continues to support government and NGO efforts and to collaborate with multilateral and bilateral agencies to ensure better lives for women and children and to eliminate gender disparities. Increased efforts have been made in many countries to improve the statistical database for gender-disaggregated information and gender analyses. For example, the United Republic of Tanzania has an advisory group on gender statistics. As a result, the situation analyses of women and children have shown marked improvements in the analysis of gender differentials in socio-economic status. Indicators show improvements in the reduction of gender disparities in areas such as school enrolment and literacy, but greater challenges remain in dismantling decades of discrimination and barriers against women's equality. The poorest and most disadvantaged households in many countries remain the female-headed ones. The majority of school drop-outs remain girl children. In Bangladesh, one half of the female-headed households fall under the extremely poor category, earning 40 per cent less income than male-headed households; women's nutritional intake is 88 per cent that of men.

122. UNICEF support to improvements in women's economic opportunities continues through support to income-generating activities and micro-enterprises in countries such as Namibia, Pakistan and the United Republic of Tanzania. Efforts are also made to increase women's access to credit in countries such as Kenya and the Philippines through support for credit schemes using approaches similar to those used by the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, primarily for poor rural and urban women. A variety of advocacy and awareness-raising activities have been initiated in many countries through UNICEF support. In the Islamic Republic of Iran, the UNICEF booklet entitled "The Girl Child: An Investment in the Future" was translated into Farsi. The Convention on the Rights of the Child was translated into Swahili in the United Republic of Tanzania for advocacy on girl child issues. A film being produced on the situation of working children in that country (with the collaboration of UNICEF and the International Labour Organisation (ILO)) focuses on the girl child. Haiti has an advocacy bulletin entitled "Girl Child Today: Woman Tomorrow" to eliminate gender disparities.

123. India's draft National Plan for the Decade of the Girl Child sets gender-specific goals and complements its NPA. The Plan of Action for the Girl Child Decade is also being finalized by the Government of Bangladesh. These measures bring girl child issues to the forefront of national agendas. Other positive developments include the review of laws affecting the girl child in the United Republic of Tanzania, commissioned by the Ministry of Community Development, Women's Affairs and Children, and the first Maghrebian Symposium on the "Girl Child Also", hosted by Morocco.

124. Many countries showed progress at varying rates in reducing the gender gap in primary school enrolment with increased enrolment for both boys and girls (e.g., Algeria, the Niger and Rwanda), with some achieving parity at least in the first three years of schooling (Algeria and Rwanda). The increase in the enrolment of schoolgirls was in many cases a result of concerted policy and action by Governments and UNICEF advocacy and support. Despite these gains in increased enrolment for the girl child, the problem of high drop-out rates among schoolgirls continues to plague many countries. In some (e.g., the Niger), religious and cultural beliefs have proved to be major hindrances. Mexico uses the strategy of awarding grants to schoolgirls through a "children in solidarity" programme to stop girls from dropping out for economic reasons. Many countries have taken initiatives to eliminate gender biases in the curriculum and textbooks. In Ethiopia, textbooks were reviewed for gender sensitivity. In Pakistan, the Government promotes a gender-sensitive curriculum, women's studies centres at universities and research and documentation centres of NGOs. Adult literacy programmes focusing on women are contributing to narrowing the gender gap in literacy, although the great majority of the world's women still remain illiterate.

125. In the area of women in development and gender issues, the recent evaluation of UNICEF has recommended that a major effort be undertaken to operationalize the UNICEF mainstreaming strategy and that extensive training in gender analysis be conducted throughout the organization. Major studies have been made towards this goal in the last few months. UNICEF has adopted "women's empowerment criteria" as its framework for gender analysis. The use of this framework would help country programmes to address both the practical and strategic gender needs of women.

126. The system-wide UNICEF gender training module is in the final stages of preparation. The first gender-training workshop based on this module, scheduled for December 1992, will be used as a basis for reviewing the module and identifying and selecting resource persons. Up to now, training has been conducted on a country and regional basis. Many country offices have conducted or have planned gender training for their staff as well as counterparts in government and NGOs. The UNICEF offices in Bangladesh, Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Pakistan and Rwanda have conducted gender training workshops covering between 80 and 100 per cent of staff. The offices in the Caribbean Island countries, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Republic of Tanzania and Venezuela have plans to conduct training before the end of the year. The Bolivia, Pacific Islands, Swaziland, Thailand, Tunisia and Zimbabwe offices have trained from 50 to 80 per cent of staff in gender analysis through regional or country-based workshops. Between one and five staff have received gender training in the Comoros, Madagascar, Malaysia, Myanmar and Uganda offices. In addition to training their own staff, UNICEF country offices play catalytic roles in facilitating gender training for their government and NGO counterparts. For example, UNICEF country offices in Angola, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania facilitated gender training covering a wide range of participants, from high-level government policy-makers and planners to local extension workers, NGO activists and community leaders.

The Bamako Initiative

127. In sub-Saharan Africa, as elsewhere in the developing world and in economies in transition, Governments are increasingly unable to provide quality health services. In this context, where there is a strong drive for a private, uncontrolled health care market, the Bamako Initiative offers a promising alternative to the traditional mix of public and private services. Adopting the principle of competition from the private sphere, the Bamako Initiative promotes the idea that services need to attract users. To do this, there must be affordable and quality services so that users will be satisfied and will return. The Initiative is squarely in the public sphere, promoting and operationalizing user control over health services through a system of co-management.

128. During 1992, the number of core countries implementing the Bamako Initiative on a scale beyond that of initial testing increased to 25, of which 22 are in sub-Saharan Africa. Many of the remaining countries in Africa have initiated the necessary preparatory action, to begin in 1993. Several other countries outside Africa either have received technical support from UNICEF or have requested an initial assessment as to the relevance of a community-focused health sector development approach, based on the principle of community involvement in the financing and management of health services.

129. As recognized in the evaluation by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine presented to the 1992 Executive Board (E/ICEF/1992/L.20), the Bamako Initiative has reached a critical stage. UNICEF has supported the revitalization of approximately 5 per cent of the peripheral health care units in sub-Saharan Africa. It is estimated that other donors, notably the Governments of Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United States of America, as well as the European Community, have supported an additional 3 per cent of units following the same approach. Given the absolute necessity for a functioning health system in order to reach the fundamental goal of reducing child and maternal mortality, the rate of expansion of the Initiative must be accelerated.

130. UNICEF estimates that, of the core group of 22 countries implementing the Initiative in Africa, nine have the capacity to accelerate implementation and reach national coverage by mid-decade. This still leaves many large countries where significant national resource mobilization, together with concerted donor support, will be required for accelerated action. One specific implication is the need for concerted donor support. There are some encouraging signs in this respect, with the World Bank marshalling opinion from a broad segment of African countries and donor agencies through its recent review of the health situation in Africa. The report, entitled "Better Health for Africa", for which UNICEF provided considerable support in dedicated staff time, provides the overall justification for a wide donor alliance between the World Bank, AfDB, bilateral and multilateral agencies and NGOs aimed at revitalizing Africa's health care system, particularly at the periphery and district levels. One example of UNICEF collaboration with the World Bank, WHO, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Government of France, the German Agency for Technical Cooperation and the European Community is in Mali. It is planned that, by 1996, the health infrastructure in five of the country's nine regions will be a fully functioning community-based health system.

131. Broad alliances are needed in order to stimulate the fundamental policy reforms required for a transformation in Africa's health system. So far, many countries have been cautious with regard to instituting the reforms that they themselves defined through the Bamako Initiative, especially in terms of resource mobilization, decentralization and local control. More than ever, with the democratization process that is occurring across Africa, the value of these reforms is also being appreciated by the people. Both Governments and donors will have to adapt to this rapidly changing environment, capitalizing on the many local African organizations that exist in order to promote, fund and sustain basic health care services.

132. To encourage the national use of essential drugs, UNICEF launched a publication entitled "The Prescriber" in 1992. Using the distribution channels that already exist for EPI, "The Prescriber" reaches peripheral health workers as well as health staff at district and central levels, providing technical information on the use of drugs for different pathogens. Four issues were published in four languages (English, French, Spanish and Portuguese), covering the areas of pregnancy, STDs and AIDS-related diseases, and ARI and CDD, with a distribution to date of over 35,000 copies, which is increasing quickly.

Nutrition and household food security

Nutrition

133. The availability of data on the prevalence of protein-energy malnutrition (PEM) has improved during the last few years. The Subcommittee on Nutrition of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) compiled existing data in the recent Second World Nutrition Situation Report. The report shows that the prevalence of PEM among children under five years of age decreased from 42 per cent in 1975 to 36 per cent in 1985, and to 34 per cent in 1990. However, as a result of population growth, the number of malnourished children increased from 168 million in 1975 to 184 million in 1990.

134. These global data hide important regional differences. While the prevalence of PEM has decreased in all regions but one (for example, South America has shown a 50 per cent reduction during the last 15 years), it has not decreased in sub-Saharan Africa. The prevalence is highest in South Asia, which has the highest child population. Of the total 184 million malnourished children, 100 million live in South Asia. Achieving the global goal for reducing PEM will require a special effort in this region.

135. Regional data also hide important differences between countries. In many countries, trends in the 1980s showed slow but significant declines in the prevalence of malnutrition as measured by underweight children. Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Thailand, Venezuela and Zimbabwe belong to this group of countries. Other countries, such as Bangladesh, Colombia, the Philippines and Rwanda show a static situation, while several countries in Africa show a worsening trend. Wars and domestic conflicts are causing famine in Angola, Ethiopia, Liberia, Mozambique, Somalia and the Sudan. Eastern and southern Africa are experiencing severe drought, which is affecting household food security and nutrition in most countries.

136. The UNICEF nutrition strategy has been promoted in all countries. More than 150 UNICEF field staff have been trained to improve their work with Governments, NGOs and other partners. To a large extent, the strategy has been adopted in Bangladesh, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Ecuador, Malawi, Mali, Namibia, Nigeria, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Swaziland and the United Republic of Tanzania. Several other countries are in the process of reorienting their nutrition strategies in the same direction, including Brazil, Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Madagascar, Mozambique, the Niger, Peru and Viet Nam. A special effort has been made to assist the larger countries, often in collaboration with other agencies such as the World Bank and bilateral donors.

137. At the national level, the major constraints to more rapid development of a coherent nutrition strategy are: (a) a lack of national consensus on the nature of the nutrition problem, particularly its causes, as most Governments still consider malnutrition a food problem; (b) continued marginalization of nutrition by Governments, agencies and universities; (c) a lack of recognition of the important role of sectoral policies and strategies for nutrition, such as agriculture, health, education and water supply and sanitation; and (d) an inadequate understanding of the key role of women in improved nutrition.

138. In the UNICEF medium-term plan for the period 1992-1995 (E/ICEF/1992/3), the following four strategies have been selected to support countries in achieving the nutritional goals: (a) control of the three major forms of micronutrient malnutrition (iron, iodine and vitamin A); (b) protection, promotion and support of breast-feeding and improved child-feeding practices; (c) community participation and empowerment through improved assessment, analysis and capability to design and implement resource-relevant and sustainable actions (the "triple A" approach), including support to improved nutrition information systems; and (d) improved national nutrition policies and strategies through policy dialogue, advocacy, training and the use of improved nutrition information systems (nutrition surveillance).

139. Of the three necessary conditions for nutritional well-being (food, health and care), the latter has received the least attention. UNICEF has successfully promoted an increased awareness of the role of care, in particular the role of improved feeding practices, including breast-feeding. Other important components of child care are personal hygiene, utilization of available basic health services and protection and stimulation of the child. UNICEF conducted a detailed review of the role of care in child nutrition in 1992. This review was accepted as one of the ICN theme papers. Improved child care for better nutrition is recognized by many countries, in particular Bangladesh, Bolivia, China, Ecuador, Egypt, Myanmar, Nigeria, the Philippines, Senegal, Swaziland, Turkey, the United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe. In several of those countries, innovative, community-based child-care arrangements are being developed, combined with the education of the parents. A "first call for children" must start at the household level.

The right to food

140. UNICEF and IFAD have reviewed jointly their experiences in household food security, and several meetings have been arranged and a "state-of-the-art" paper prepared. The review supports the UNICEF conceptual framework in which

household food security is one of three conditions required for nutritional well-being. This implies that consumption (or dietary intake) does not coincide necessarily with household food security, that nutritional status is not a valid indicator of household food security and that such programmes should have their own and not nutritional objectives.

141. Per capita food production has stagnated in many countries and declined in others. Africa is experiencing particularly severe drought, resulting in a 50 per cent decline in food production in some countries in eastern and southern Africa. The decline in food production has resulted in multiple price increases, making what food is available inaccessible to poor households. In many countries, the decreased access to food has resulted in reduced meal frequency, directly affecting the nutritional well-being of children. UNICEF has supported many Governments in different ways to improve household food security. Support is provided to credit schemes focused on women in Cambodia, Malawi, Namibia, the Philippines, Rwanda and the United Republic of Tanzania; to seed multiplication projects in Nigeria; to the training of agricultural extension workers in Namibia; to food banks in Chad and the Niger; and to multiple cropping schemes in Benin and Burkina Faso.

142. The UNICEF regional office for eastern and southern Africa coordinated a study of household food security focusing on Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia. The results of the study provide a broader perspective on the scope of the household food security problem in the region and outline some key programmatic interventions in each country. UNICEF has also participated actively in the preparation of an international decade for food and nutrition in Africa.

Breast-feeding

143. Efforts to accelerate the protection, promotion and support of breast-feeding, one of which is the "baby-friendly" hospital initiative, showed continued progress in 1992.

144. One goal of the initiative is to mobilize the health care system and health workers to promote and support breast-feeding and to establish an international consensus on practices that are optimally supportive of breast-feeding. A secondary objective is to encourage hospitals to be more oriented towards PHC, thus contributing to the decrease of infant and child mortality and morbidity. Inappropriate practices in hospitals and other maternity services have long persisted, although research has proved that such practices diminish breast-feeding, leading to early supplementation of breast milk and early stoppage of breast-feeding. Health workers' lack of knowledge and skills for supporting breast-feeding and the provision of donated or low-cost supplies of breast-milk substitutes to maternity services and hospitals are factors. The initiative aims to remove misinformation and establish optimal practices in hospitals, thus setting in motion a process that will result in the implementation of the WHO/UNICEF "10 steps to successful breast-feeding".

145. WHO and UNICEF have supported the process of the designation of "baby-friendly" hospitals by developing global criteria based on the "10 steps" and by providing programming guidelines and training manuals. An international

assessment instrument based on 35 brief interviews with mothers and staff has been prepared to provide a common global standard for judging accomplishments. Countries were assisted in establishing national committees for the Initiative and in designating "baby-friendly" hospitals. UNICEF identified a global network of health professionals qualified to help in the global assessment of the training of health workers, in the transformation of hospital practices and in supporting countries to plan for long-term changes. Within only 18 months, activities for the Initiative have been undertaken in more than 120 industrialized and developing countries.

146. During 1992, 90 developing countries targeted hospitals to become "baby-friendly". In more than one half of those countries, 767 hospitals are committed to achieving or have already achieved "baby-friendly" status by having undertaken the "10 steps", and in several, the "10 steps" were adopted to apply to whole villages, cities and regions. Health facilities and staff in 36 industrialized countries have initiated steps to implement the initiative's goals for hospitals, and 11 countries have established national authorities to oversee implementation of the initiative.

147. The need for retraining health workers to support breast-feeding is universal. To respond to the demand for support by countries, UNICEF has recruited a full-time lactation management specialist to be based at headquarters. UNICEF and WHO also enhanced the curricula used to train health care professionals and worked closely with relevant NGOs to increase significantly the number of "master trainers". Over 200 master trainers and assessors were identified and special regional training meetings were held in Central America, West Africa, South-East Asia, North America and China.

148. The easy availability of artificial feeding products and utensils within health care facilities is an obstacle and a major disincentive to the initiation and establishment of breast-feeding. In 1991, the Executive Board called upon all manufacturers and distributors of breast-milk substitutes to end the distribution of free and low-cost supplies of infant formula by the end of 1992 (E/ICEF/1992/15, decision 1991/22). The International Association of Infant Food Manufacturers promised that by December 1992 its 29 members would stop their marketing practice of providing free and low-cost supplies to maternity wards and hospitals in developing countries, provided that Governments took action to prohibit the practice by all manufacturers and distributors of breast-milk substitutes. During 1992, at the urging of UNICEF and WHO, this promise was extended to Eastern Europe and the republics of the former Soviet Union.

149. UNICEF and WHO have committed their organizational resources to secure actions by Governments that would prohibit the distribution and use of free or low-cost supplies of breast-milk substitutes to maternity wards and hospitals. In September 1991, the Director-General of WHO and the Executive Director of UNICEF wrote a joint letter to heads of State in all countries, seeking their cooperation in promoting breast-feeding, in supporting the "baby-friendly" hospital initiative and in taking action to end the provision of free or low-cost supplies. As of December 1992, 122 Governments either had taken action to end free and low-cost supplies of breast-milk substitutes or had never engaged in this practice. As a result, 97 per cent of all children in developing countries live in countries that have taken official action to ban the distribution of free and low-cost supplies of breast-milk substitutes; action by

these Governments has opened the way for vigorous enforcement of the bans in all hospitals and maternity facilities and created the conditions for the support, protection and promotion of breast-feeding. As of January 1993, eight developing countries where free supplies are still prevalent had not yet acted to end their distribution; it is hoped that all will have done so by the time of the Executive Board session in April 1993. The goal of ending the distribution of free and low-cost supplies in all industrialized countries has been set for mid-1994.

150. UNICEF also developed programme guidelines for use by field staff to secure government action. The guidelines include models and examples of actions that had been taken by the 12 "starter" countries during the first phase of the initiative. During 1993, additional guidelines will focus on ensuring compliance with the actions taken, monitoring and establishing enforcement mechanisms and expanding action to the ongoing protection of breast-feeding throughout the first two years of a child's life.

151. The "baby-friendly" hospital initiative is the first global initiative that WHO and UNICEF have launched with the same standards for both developing and industrialized countries. It has set in motion dialogue and actions that not only will make it possible to re-establish a breast-feeding culture globally, but also will result in a gradual, sustainable transformation of the way hospitals treat new parents, newborns and, eventually, their patients all over the world.

Micronutrients

152. Following the international policy conference on "Ending Hidden Hunger", an increasing number of countries have taken steps towards combating micronutrient malnutrition. It now appears feasible to virtually eliminate iodine deficiency disorders (IDD) in a number of highly populated regions of the world by 1995, a goal that has been endorsed by regional forums in Africa, Latin America and South Asia. During 1992, the consensus solidified on the importance of vitamin A for reducing childhood mortality and morbidity caused by common infections in areas where there are marginal deficiencies. Increasingly clear evidence emerged regarding the importance of micronutrients, including iron, vitamin A, iodine and zinc, in ensuring the adequate growth of young children. There is also a new awareness of the interactions between micronutrients, for example, the way in which vitamin A deficiency impairs the body's utilization of iodine and iron.

153. The SAARC Ministerial Conference on Children in South Asia, held in September, accepted the challenge of ensuring that all salt in SAARC countries is iodized by the end of 1995. There are preliminary indications that IDD already have been virtually eliminated in Bhutan, and important steps have been taken towards iodizing all salt in Bangladesh. In China, combating micronutrient malnutrition has become a major development issue, and a comprehensive plan for tackling IDD has been developed by the Government in cooperation with UNDP, WHO and UNICEF. Training of personnel to manage the project has started and implementation is expected to begin in 1993. Mongolia, Myanmar and the Philippines also took important steps towards eliminating IDD, and in the Americas, Bolivia and Ecuador are close to virtual elimination. In Africa, Cameroon and Namibia made significant progress during the year.

154. UNICEF continued to support the International Council for the Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (ICCIDD) in providing information, advocacy and support. With UNICEF and other agencies, ICCIDD organized meetings of southern African countries in Senegal, in Botswana, and of West African countries to develop plans for the universal iodization of salt. A similar meeting was held in the Philippines under WHO auspices to review the situation in China and South-East Asia. The results of a survey carried out with ICCIDD assistance revealed that IDD remains an important problem in Eastern Europe.

155. During the year, UNICEF decided to participate in the micronutrient initiative, which was established by the International Development Research Centre, the Canadian International Development Agency, UNDP and the World Bank to encourage and facilitate action to establish relevant programmes in developing countries. UNICEF continues to collaborate with WHO on issues such as indicators for monitoring progress towards achieving the Summit goals and levels of fortification. UNICEF and WHO collaborated on the development of national strategies for overcoming micronutrient malnutrition that were adopted by the World Health Assembly. UNICEF supported WHO in the development of a micronutrient deficiency information system to establish global databases on the prevalence of micronutrient deficiencies and related programmes.

156. Increased capacity for eliminating IDD will also affect other micronutrient deficiencies, including those for vitamin A and iron. Because of the very significant support already provided at the international level for combating vitamin A malnutrition through such groups as the International Vitamin A Consultative Group, Helen Keller International and the Vitamin A Field Support Project, UNICEF has concentrated on coordinating support with these agencies and on supporting country-level activities. In Indonesia, an ongoing national survey is expected to confirm that xerophthalmia, which is indicative of moderate to severe vitamin A deficiency, has been virtually eliminated. Large national vitamin A supplementation programmes have been implemented in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, and a number of other countries are planning to link vitamin A supplementation to EPI.

157. Iron and folic acid supplements supplied by UNICEF were provided on a large scale to pregnant women in some 30 countries. UNICEF has agreed to participate with WHO in an in-depth analysis of the anaemia control situation in 30 countries to overcome problems such as poor acceptability of supplements and to assist in programme expansion.

Growth monitoring and promotion

158. Evaluations of UNICEF support to growth monitoring and promotion and nutrition surveillance were completed during 1992. The review was based on detailed evaluations in China, Ecuador, Indonesia, Malawi, Thailand, Zaire and Zambia. The review showed that assessment of growth is widespread, but few programmes cover more than 20 to 30 per cent of children under five years old and few nutritionally favourable actions are taken. A poor understanding of the causes of malnutrition is the main reason for this situation. The amount of resources required for training of staff to increase their analytical capability has been seriously underestimated. Growth monitoring and promotion is not an "entry point" to improve PHC and nutrition, but rather a potentially powerful catalyst for making such programmes more focused and effective.

159. Nutrition surveillance programmes were reviewed in Botswana, China, Costa Rica, Madagascar, Mali, Mexico, Venezuela and Viet Nam, and the results from these programmes were found to be less than satisfactory. Most nutritional surveillance programmes are characterized by substantial data collection, but there is inadequate analysis and hardly any of the data are used by decision-makers. The systems have been supply-oriented, based on the assumption that the provision of information would convince decision-makers to use the new information. A more demand-driven process is required.

Basic education

160. Of all the major goals for children in the 1990s, none are more critical to building a permanent foundation for promoting children's well-being than those related to basic education. Since the World Conference on Education for All, there has been a substantial increase in the commitment of resources by some international donors, particularly the World Bank, but bilateral donors have been slow to respond. Recently, countries have begun to look again at their plans and priorities for basic education, and UNICEF, with its international partners, has encouraged and supported this process. However, most of the countries that lagged in this area in the past, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Middle East, still have not developed feasible strategies for achieving universal primary education for all children within the decade. The challenge for countries, UNICEF and their partners is to find a means to achieve rapid, significant results.

161. The main thrust of activities in 1992 was to consolidate and extend the gains made following the momentum created by 1990 by the World Conference on Education for All. Programme strategies were elaborated in areas such as the education of girls and women, and the linkages between primary education and early childhood development and between adult non-formal education and literacy. Strong emphasis was placed on finding low-cost, creative ways of bringing basic education to poor and difficult-to-reach communities. These strategies were promoted through the dissemination of information and exchange visits. A book entitled "Education for All: What are we waiting for?", which summarized the experience of successful innovations such as the Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC) non-formal primary education project and Escuela Nueva ("New School") in Colombia, was widely distributed. At the request of national Governments, a senior member of BRAC travelled to Senegal, Sierra Leone and Nigeria to share its experiences about this successful community-based education project, which was awarded the 1992 UNICEF Maurice Pate Award (E/ICEF/1992/P/L.1). Teams of educators from Turkey and Africa, assisted by UNICEF, travelled to Colombia to learn about Escuela Nueva. Countries preparing programme submissions for the Executive Board or those engaged in a mid-term review received special attention. Extra attention was also given to the nine most populous developing countries, where two thirds of the world's illiterate people live, under the umbrella of the "largest countries initiative". The first consultative meeting for regional education advisers, held at UNICEF headquarters in New York, was attended by UNICEF representatives from those nine countries. UNICEF efforts in those and other countries are directed at encouraging countries to concentrate on developing and implementing a viable strategy to have at least 80 per cent of children, including girls, complete their primary education. The staff capacity of UNICEF in several country offices will be strengthened in 1993 and the next budget biennium.

Primary education and the girl child

162. In 1992, work continued on supporting and influencing national strategies for the universalization of primary education, which was the focus of workshops and internal discussion. As part of that effort, the development of "primary education tools" for sector analysis, planning, advocacy and evaluation was started in 1991; to date, a comprehensive educational analysis manual for UNICEF education officers and their government counterparts has been prepared, as has a set of field guidelines for implementing improvements in primary education. Strategies for achieving the education goals for Africa by the year 2000 were articulated as a contribution to ICAAC. Primary education was a priority theme at representatives' meetings held in all UNICEF regions. Meetings with UNICEF representatives in eastern and southern Africa identified girls' and women's education as a top priority for the region. Representatives in MENA also viewed girls' education as requiring priority attention.

163. UNICEF played a key role during the year in elaborating policy statements on girls' education and in advocating strategies that work. At the conference on girls' education sponsored by the NGO Committee on UNICEF, the Executive Director called for full integration of girls into the mainstream educational system, but recognized the importance of using non-formal and alternative approaches as standbys. UNICEF support to girls' education at the country level included activities such as the training of female teachers in Nepal, Pakistan and Yemen; the preparation of gender-sensitive curricula in Bangladesh, Mozambique and Nepal; building schools closer to communities in Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal; and supporting day-care centres for younger children in China. In Morocco, a project has been launched to double the enrolment of rural girls in primary schools by 1995. In Pakistan, the new UNICEF country programme has a major focus on girls' access, enrolment, retention and completion. The girls' education project in Yemen includes female teacher training and the development of alternative facilities for learning. Girls' and women's education was on the agenda of the May 1992 meeting of the UNESCO/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education, which recommended intensified collaboration between the two agencies in this area. Priority attention to girls' education is viewed by UNICEF as a key strategy for bringing about systematic improvement in countries' overall primary education efforts, leading to universalization of primary education.

Early childhood development

164. To respond to needs at regional and country levels, an update of the UNICEF policy on young child development was completed in 1992 with the collaboration of the sponsors of the World Conference on Education for All and several NGOs and private volunteer organizations. A framework for national policy development was prepared and shared with 20 countries in Africa. Facts for Life messages to support advocacy in favour of young children were expanded to include messages about child development, which will be published in the second edition of Facts for Life in early 1993. Training of the young child was initiated in nine countries in the Sahel as part of the Sahel dur initiative, and training modules were introduced in Angola, Ghana, Rwanda and several other countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Partnerships were reinforced with concerned international and bilateral organizations and international NGOs on young child development in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and the Americas and the Caribbean during working meetings in New York, Washington, Paris and in the

field. At least 12 countries in Latin America have strong components on young child development in their basic education programmes. Another 20 countries in Africa and 11 in Asia and the Middle East, including some of the most populous, are reorienting their early child programmes to adopt a comprehensive strategy for the development of the young child in the context of promoting basic education for all.

Adult literacy and non-formal education

165. In 1992, UNICEF participated in meetings, seminars and colloquiums on literacy and adult education that targeted a variety of needs. A set of policy guidelines and strategy issues is being developed by the Programme Division education cluster to serve as a starting-point for discussion and building consensus in this area. An integrated adult and children's literacy programme is being conducted in Nepal, which includes reading, writing, numeracy and life skills components. In Namibia, a national literacy programme was launched in September which aims to achieve full literacy by the year 2000. Egypt has established a National Agency for Adult Education and the Elimination of Illiteracy and declared 1990 as the beginning of its Decade for Literacy. The Dominican Republic has just developed a new set of literacy materials whose contents are adapted from Facts for Life. In July, New York headquarters had the honour of hosting Paulo Freire, the well-known Brazilian educator, who has made a singular contribution to the world's thinking on literacy. This was followed by a UNESCO/UNICEF regional seminar on adult education in Sante Fe de Bogota, Colombia, which analysed the current situation in this field and developed a new framework for action in adult education for Latin America. Collaborative activities were initiated with UNESCO, the International Council for Adult Education, the Latin American Council for Adult Education and the National Center on Adult Literacy (United States).

Goal monitoring and building partnerships

166. UNICEF is working with UNESCO and other partners to help countries improve the quality and timeliness of data collection for existing indicators. With UNESCO and the World Bank, a broad direction has been identified and selected activities begun for work on the development and application of relevant monitoring and assessment tools. A joint UNESCO/UNICEF project is concentrating on developing measures of learning achievement, and a central project team is already in place at UNESCO headquarters in Paris.

167. Existing networks were strengthened and extended both at headquarters and in the field. Meetings were held with USAID, the World Bank, UNESCO and UNDP to share information and plan joint activities. Most notably, a strong working partnership was initiated in the area of early childhood development and girls' education; both the World Bank and USAID have shown interest in including it in their list of educational priorities and have asked for UNICEF collaboration in this area. Contacts were made with the Christian Children's Fund, the Bernard Van Leer Foundation, the World Organization for Preschool Education and the Child-to-Child Trust (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland). UNICEF continued to take an active role in promoting the activities specified in the UNESCO/UNICEF Cooperative Agreement and participated in the first meeting of the International Consultative Forum on Education for All, hosted by UNESCO at Geneva last September. UNICEF also took an active role in the formulation of a

plan of action for promoting innovations in education, which is a collaborative project with UNESCO and others. The international Multi-channel Action Group for Education, which was formed in 1992 with UNICEF encouragement, will work closely with the Education for All Forum to provide support for harnessing all communications media within the Education for All Framework for Action. A constructive working relationship has developed with the International Institute for Educational Planning in Paris and the UNESCO Institute for Education in Hamburg, Germany, both UNESCO-affiliated institutions.

168. Greater efforts will be made to translate the new policies being developed with regional offices into a concrete set of field actions. Closer coordination with partners at UNESCO, the World Bank, USAID and the NGO community in selected "flagship" countries will help to consolidate the steps already being taken towards achieving the decade's basic education goals. Attention will be given to adapting and designing existing and future basic education interventions in each country programme in line with the education goals and strategies now being reflected in NPAs. Corresponding efforts will be made to work with donors through the Programme Funding Office (PFO) to mobilize resources for the "flagship" countries and the "nine largest countries" initiative.

Water supply and environmental sanitation

169. UNICEF cooperated in 1992 in water supply and sanitation projects or activities with over 70 countries. In many of those countries, increased sustainable coverage is being pursued by emphasizing community management, in which the users participate in the project in a meaningful way, especially the management of maintenance. Such participatory involvement requires constant nurturing, as it is not a one-time event, but rather an evolutionary process. Greater attention is being given to intra-sectoral linkages between water supply, sanitation and hygiene, as well as inter-sectoral linkages with health, nutrition, education, women and the environment. While there are many examples of the link between water supply and sanitation and health, the link with other sectors is not as apparent. Some countries, including Bangladesh, Benin and Ethiopia, are changing sanitation from a technical or engineering activity to a public health process, with female staff heading the sanitation and hygiene components of the UNICEF programme in several cases.

170. As the sector has become more focused on social aspects (rather than hardware), programming in the 1990s has increasingly reflected this transformation. On a global scale, the water supply and sanitation sector staff, plus some staff from other sectors, are being trained on a regional basis to upgrade their skills to meet the changed situation within the sector. Staff in sub-Saharan Africa were trained at two workshops during 1992. NPAs are viewed as the vehicle for achieving the sectoral goals. ICAAC provided an opportunity to focus on Africa's water supply and sanitation strategies for the 1990s and on the need to exploit existing opportunities to the fullest.

171. Capacity-building is receiving attention in a number of countries, but it needs to be more organized, systematic and focused with respect to different sub-national levels. Cost awareness is gaining ground as UNICEF and Governments pay greater attention to sustainable cost patterns. A mechanism is being developed to standardize water supply and sanitation costing parameters so that

unit and per capita costs can be compared between countries, along with trend analyses.

172. Technical cooperation among developing countries is increasing. For example, personnel from Peru visited Guatemala and Honduras; those from Mozambique visited Zambia and Kenya; Sierra Leoneans visited Zambia; Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania exchanged information; and Nigeria sent visitors to Honduras. UNICEF is currently engaged in collaborative efforts with WHO, UNDP, the World Bank and several bilateral donors. UNICEF also works with a multitude of NGOs at the country level, although the situation varies from country to country. About 18 countries executed some form of water supply and sanitation review in 1992, of which about 8 had in-depth evaluations while the remaining 10 pursued studies. Several of the countries are in the process of taking follow-up actions based on the evaluations or studies.

173. As countries continue to be affected by natural and man-made emergencies, during which water supply and sanitation are primary needs, it is necessary to optimize the use of resources by making the emergency water supply and sanitation programme conform with the regular programme and to plan them together instead of having two parallel activities. There are inherent difficulties in this approach, but it can be highly cost-effective.

174. With the preparation of NPAs, there is increased priority for sector monitoring in relation to achievement of the goals. By the end of 1990, WHO and UNICEF had developed a methodology to assist developing countries in establishing a mechanism for monitoring their performance. About 70 countries have reported on their 1990 sectoral status, including coverage, and information for 1991 is still being received. Data for the end of 1992 will be available in mid-1993. A global monitoring report for the sector will be published each year. As systematic monitoring with annual reporting is a new approach, regional training of government, UNICEF and WHO staff is being pursued, and workshops have been completed for the Latin America and the Caribbean, Eastern and Southern Africa, and West and Central Africa regions.

175. The recent evaluation of UNICEF recognized the key role played by UNICEF during the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (IDWSSD) through its promotion of low-cost, appropriate technologies for rural water supply and sanitation. During the 1990s, UNICEF water supply and environmental sanitation strategies will focus on the provision of appropriate, low-cost water supply and sanitation facilities to as many target group members as possible, including those in peri-urban areas. Sector programming will focus upon capacity-building, empowerment of women, monitoring, advocacy, cost-efficiency and greater effectiveness in terms of socio-economic and health benefits.

Eradication of dracunculiasis (guinea worm disease)

176. The goal of eradicating dracunculiasis (guinea worm disease) in the 1990s was initially endorsed in April 1981 by the IDWSSD Steering Committee. At its 1989 session, the Executive Board included the elimination of dracunculiasis as an important element of a global strategy for the well-being of children as an essential part of overall development (E/ICEF/1989/L.5). The eradication of dracunculiasis was included in the goals of the World Summit for Children, and at its 1991 session, the Executive Board approved the recommendation of the

Executive Director to support the interregional programme for dracunculiasis eradication efforts (E/ICEF/1991/P/L.34) in order to provide technical programme planning, monitoring support and training assistance in establishing the surveillance systems and technical capacity required to achieve the goal of dracunculiasis eradication in this decade.

177. To facilitate eradication efforts, UNICEF has been assisting countries to develop community-based surveillance systems not only for dracunculiasis, but for preventable childhood diseases such as polio, linked to appropriate district, state, provincial and national programmes and monitoring systems in the health and water supply sectors. UNICEF is currently supporting operations research activities in the areas of health education and alternative low-cost water supply so that they can be extended to small and remote villages in which dracunculiasis is found and where boreholes are often not cost-effective.

178. UNICEF continues to work closely with WHO, Global 2000, the Carter Presidential Center, the WHO Collaborating Center for Dracunculiasis at the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, USAID, the Japanese International Cooperation Agency, the World Bank and other international, bilateral and national agencies and NGOs in supporting relevant technical cooperation activities. The UNICEF dracunculiasis eradication technical support team, drawing on UNICEF technical officers and consultants in endemic countries and elsewhere, responds continuously to national programme requirements. In addition, the UNICEF/WHO Inter-agency Technical Support Team for endemic francophone countries, created in July 1992, is now operational and based in Burkina Faso. It provides necessary ongoing technical support to national and international efforts to implement dracunculiasis eradication activities. Future priorities for the programme include the mapping of endemic areas in all countries, strengthening of country-based surveillance systems and the integration of dracunculiasis surveillance activities with other community interventions.

Urban services

179. A number of countries, particularly in Latin America, have noted that a significant portion of the urban population, often nearly one half, live in poverty. Poverty in urban areas is particularly devastating for children because it leads directly to malnutrition, poor housing and unsanitary environmental conditions. Sporadic data from a number of countries show that social indicators such as nutritional status, IMR and U5MR are actually worse in urban low-income areas than in rural areas. However, very few countries have information on the urban poor recorded separately from the general statistics for urban areas. Consequently, the extent and severity of urban poverty is masked. A separate paper on the urban situation and programme responses has been prepared for the 1993 Executive Board session (E/ICEF/1993/L.9).

Children in especially difficult circumstances

180. Armed conflicts in many parts of the world in 1992 continued to put large numbers of children in grave and unusual danger, threatening their lives and jeopardizing their growth and development.

181. Increasingly, the rehabilitation of children is being incorporated into emergency programmes in situations of armed conflict. UNICEF has developed a comprehensive response to the rehabilitation needs of children in such situations, particularly for dealing with psychosocial stress and trauma. A framework for analysis and a guide for more effective assistance for children in armed conflict situations can be found in a pamphlet entitled "Survivors: Rehabilitation of Children in Armed Conflict" (the first of a series), and a guide for action, "Children in War: A Guide to the Provision of Services", to be published in March 1993.

182. UNICEF is assisting programmes for psychosocial rehabilitation in 13 countries, including Croatia, Iraq and Liberia. Methods have been developed for extending this type of assistance on a large scale through schools, health care systems, community organizations and even the mass media. In some cases, assistance is also provided for the development of local training and research facilities to increase local capacities to respond to the long-term need for psychosocial support resulting from the conflict.

183. Prevention, early detection and community-based rehabilitation of physically disabled children continue to be assisted in many countries affected by armed conflicts, but the capacity to respond is still limited in comparison with the size of the problem. Too often, rehabilitation programmes are predominantly for adults, particularly former combatants. An increasingly important part of the response to physical disabilities is to assist in reintegrating disabled children back into their communities, schools and families. Innovative programmes have been started in several countries using mass media to educate the public and to begin "mainstreaming" disabled children in public schools.

184. Efforts to extend the concepts of education for peace have been initiated in the Middle East and several countries in other regions. Although the term "education for peace" has caused difficulties in some countries, the underlying concepts (increasing inter-cultural understanding, building national pride and self-esteem, improving communications among groups and learning techniques for the peaceful resolution of conflicts) are generally accepted. The continued expansion and enthusiastic response to the programmes being assisted in Lebanon and Sri Lanka give hope that this type of programme, so essential for resolving the underlying causes of conflicts, will be extended to more countries in the future.

185. Child abuse and neglect are still hardly acknowledged in most developing countries. However, the increased membership of developing countries in the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) indicates a growing interest in the issue. The increasing attention of WHO and the International Paediatric Association, which have proposed a research protocol on physical abuse, helps to mobilize the medical community. Only a few country programmes have specific mention of child abuse as a significant problem, and even fewer have programmes to monitor, respond to or prevent it. As the next congress of ISPCAN will be held in Malaysia, many developing countries, particularly in Asia, are being encouraged to investigate the problem and begin to address it publicly. Continuing studies in industrialized countries indicate that the problem is much more widespread in these countries than previously realized.

186. Child prostitution, particularly related to tourism in South-East Asia and Latin America and trafficking of children in South Asia, has become a growing concern and was the subject of regional meetings in Asia and Africa in 1992. Several regional NGO networks are being organized to combat this problem, most notably the Campaign to End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism (ECPAT). UNICEF has assisted these efforts through ECPAT, the International Catholic Child Bureau (ICCB) and the International Abolitionist Federation. A number of local NGOs have developed effective education programmes to prevent children from being sold or lured into prostitution, and others are working directly with young prostitutes to assist them in obtaining medical, educational and other services and in protecting their rights.

187. Street children remain one of the largest categories of children in especially difficult circumstances, and new urgency was added to this issue with the increased attention to the killing of street children in Brazil and other Latin American countries. This negative image often overshadows the fact that almost all countries in Latin America have been developing increasingly effective programmes to protect and assist street children, in which UNICEF has played a critical role. Situation studies on street children have been completed in a number of countries in Africa and have led to new projects being developed. Situation analyses of street children in Cambodia and Viet Nam have also been started.

188. The effort to combat child labour has been given a boost by the launching by ILO of a new interregional programme for eliminating child labour. The programme will concentrate initially in six countries and expand to 12 in the near future. UNICEF is cooperating closely with the programme at both headquarters and country levels. Several country programmes are working with Governments and NGOs on research, raising public awareness and providing non-formal education to working children.

Childhood disability prevention and rehabilitation

189. Despite world-wide economic reverses, remarkable advances have been made in the field of preventive health, in saving the lives of millions of children every year from death and disability due to diseases and micronutrient deficiencies. Action-oriented measures aimed at the continued improvement of the situation of children with disabilities and their protection and development were highly visible in ongoing UNICEF-assisted programmes in 1992.

190. To meet the goals established for the survival, protection and development of all children, including those with disabilities, by the World Summit for Children, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the World Programme of Action of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, UNICEF has called for a global offensive against disability that would be as powerful as the one waged against mortality. At the seventeenth World Congress of Rehabilitation International held at Nairobi, Kenya, UNICEF emphasized that only through a timely and collective response would the estimated 150 million children with disabilities be ensured improved quality of life, an accessible environment for daily life, education, health, necessary technology, employment, social integration and recreation.

191. At the end of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, a United Nations task force was established, based on a proposal originally made by UNICEF. The first meeting of the task force, in September 1992 at Nairobi, in conjunction with the World Congress of Rehabilitation International, agreed on objectives for the year 2000: to reduce the incidence of avoidable disability by one third through effective prevention (including sustainable immunization; the elimination of micronutrient deficiencies; safe motherhood, with special reference to birth trauma; the prevention of accidents; and the elimination of water-borne diseases such as river blindness); timely rehabilitation, with emphasis on effective, community-based disability and rehabilitation programmes; needed curative measures, such as multi-drug therapy for leprosy; and emphasizing education, teacher training, research, communication and public awareness. Members of the task force also agreed on an advocacy campaign at the highest level to bring visibility to the situation of disabled persons, their human rights and the accessibility of the surrounding environment and facilities to them.

192. During 1992, there were UNICEF-assisted programmes with childhood disability components in 51 countries. These programmes aim to reduce childhood disabilities with preventable causes; to promote early detection and develop family- and community-based rehabilitation; to eliminate vitamin A disorders and IDD, which are the leading causes of child blindness and probable contributing factors to high child mortality rates and a major cause of mental deficiencies; to include advocacy, mobilization and training; to protect institutionalized disabled children and advocacy-relevant legislation; to train community health and education workers in early identification and child stimulation; and to conduct studies and monitoring to eliminate birth-related accidents that lead to childhood disability by supporting safe motherhood and strengthening MCH clinics. UNICEF continued its collaboration with Rehabilitation International to promote and provide technical support to childhood disability prevention and rehabilitation activities, in addition to functioning in liaison with other United Nations agencies and NGOs.

Drug abuse control and healthy lifestyles for youth

193. In its resolution 47/100 of 16 December 1992, the General Assembly called upon all relevant United Nations agencies to establish agency-specific implementation plans to incorporate fully into their programmes all the mandates and activities contained in the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control. The Assembly also requested those agencies to report to the Secretary-General by 1 March 1993 on progress made in establishing such agency-specific plans.

194. UNICEF, through its support for implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which calls upon States parties to the Convention to protect children from the use of narcotic drugs, and for the implementation of the Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children, which states that concerted action is needed to combat drug abuse, supports the fight against drug abuse at national, regional and international levels. A number of NPAs contain programmes for drug prevention and treatment services for youth and for protecting children exposed to such risks.

195. During the past year, UNICEF also has increased efforts focused on the healthy development of young people, who are confronted increasingly with a variety of obstacles to their development. Some of those obstacles are rapid urbanization, early sexual activity, STDs, HIV/AIDS, unplanned pregnancies, economic recession and unemployment, severe pressures on family structures and increased exposure to harmful substances.

196. A global epidemic of substance abuse continues to threaten children, youth and societies in both developing and industrialized countries. Substance abuse, which includes tobacco, alcohol, the inhalation of harmful solvent vapours and the use of illicit drugs, is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality among young people. Although it is preventable, it contributes substantially to the prevalence of violence, accidents, homicides, suicides and the transmission of HIV/AIDS and other STDs. Substance abuse poses a major developmental problem through the diversion of scarce financial, technical and institutional resources and the dulling of human capabilities.

197. UNICEF efforts in this area are increasing substantially within the framework of "youth health and development promotion". At the global level, this involves strengthening relationships with existing partners, especially the Adolescent Health Division of WHO, UNFPA, the World Organization of the Scout Movement, the World Association of Girl Guides, the Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Commonwealth Secretariat Youth Programme and the Young Women's Christian Association. An important new partnership will be with the United Nations International Drug Control Programme.

198. In April 1992, the Executive Director addressed the Eighth World Congress on Smoking and Health and called for an expanded alliance to prevent the exploitation of youth through the promotion of tobacco addiction and other forms of substance abuse.

199. A Youth Health and Development Technical Support Group has been formed to mobilize technical support to UNICEF country programmes seeking assistance in this area. Throughout Latin America, the prevention of substance abuse has received increased attention in UNICEF programmes for children in especially difficult circumstances. In Tegucigalpa, Honduras, the "sport for life" programme focuses on drug abuse prevention through community-based youth initiatives. In Mexico, the programme for children in especially difficult circumstances has facilitated research and educational activities on substance abuse among street children. In Bolivia, where solvent use is an area of growing concern, UNICEF supports projects in that area. In Colombia, UNICEF is supporting a major youth development initiative in Cali with the departmental and municipal governments and key NGOs. Since 1985, the UNICEF office in Brazil has played a key role in the development of the National Movement for Street Boys and Girls, which has taken up many important issues, including drug abuse, at all levels from the street to the national Government. Existing efforts have also been strengthened in Botswana, Mali, the Caribbean and other countries.

E. Other supporting activities

Programme evaluation and research

200. Based on the 1992 report to the Executive Board on overall progress in the implementation of evaluation activities in UNICEF (E/ICEF/1992/L.9), UNICEF is now going beyond increasing the number, quality and use of evaluations at the individual project level and focusing on managing the evaluation process itself more systematically and effectively at all levels. A review of past evaluations and their use and a summary of the evaluation plan and structure for all of the programme areas to be assisted in future will be included in all country programmes submitted to the Executive Board.

201. An analysis of the sectoral distribution of evaluations from 1988 to 1991 has shown that health has been the major focus of more than one half of the evaluations conducted by UNICEF, followed by nutrition and water supply and sanitation. Given the high priority accorded to UCI and ORT in the late 1980s, this was to be expected. Provisional data for 1992 show a trend towards a broader, more representative distribution of evaluation efforts across other sectors, in line with the goal-oriented approach to programme delivery. Table 8 shows the percentage of evaluations conducted by subjects and by major programme category from 1988 to 1992.

Table 8. Percentage of evaluations conducted by subject and by major programme category, 1988-1992 a/

	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992 (Planned)
Health	55	51	47	51	42
Nutrition	16	10	10	12	10
Water supply and sanitation	8	10	12	10	8
Education	5	12	11	12	15
Women in development	7	7	7	5	
Children in especially difficult circumstances	1	1	1	2	3
Area-based programmes	2	1	1	5	5
Social mobilization	4	8	8	4	4
Emergency rehabilitation	2	2	3	1	2

a/ Since some evaluations are multisectoral and some cover other programme categories not listed, the percentage of evaluation subjects listed does not equal 100 per cent.

202. In order to improve UNICEF institutional memory and to facilitate the sharing of lessons learned, the evaluation database was expanded to provide qualitative information and to serve as a management tool for country and regional offices. The database currently contains data on approximately 4,000 evaluations and studies carried out by UNICEF since 1987. A test edition of the evaluation database has been completed and will be distributed to regional offices and selected country offices early in 1993. Following this test phase, a full-fledged version of the database will be distributed throughout the organization. As part of the effort to reinforce the evaluation management function, a consultation was conducted at headquarters to develop checklists for grading the quality of evaluations. The Evaluation Office's methodology for the review of evaluations has also been improved.

203. Evaluation capacity-building in UNICEF country offices was a major focus in 1992. The Evaluation Office conducted intensive training activities on low-cost, essential research and evaluation methodologies in Angola, Burundi, Chad, Honduras, Liberia, Malawi, Mexico, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Niger, Rwanda, Thailand and Zimbabwe, in addition to two regional workshops for eastern and southern Africa and East Asia and the Pacific and a seminar at headquarters. Over 100 UNICEF staff from 50 countries were involved in the training, which aims to enhance the UNICEF country office evaluation function and monitor goals for the 1990s.

204. The Evaluation Office conducted training in sentinel community surveillance, which includes the direct and active involvement of the communities where the research or evaluation takes place and the immediate, action-oriented feedback to those communities, combined with structured feedback to the district- and national-level management information processes. As a direct result of this training, 17 countries are now using the method with an emphasis on impact measurement.

205. A thematic rolling evaluation plan is being established as the basis for guiding the assessment of the principal programme areas, strategies and critical factors relevant to UNICEF cooperation and as the basis for guiding policy and programme development. Critical factors assessed will include the sustainability of programme actions, the impact on the poorest groups, development and empowerment benefits for women, stimulation of community participation, social mobilization and the achievement of cost-effectiveness. The Evaluation Office works closely with the different Programme Division advisory clusters to establish the corporate priorities for this evaluation plan.

206. The Evaluation Office and the nutrition cluster of Programme Division have been coordinating a global thematic evaluation involving a seven-country case-study of UNICEF support to growth monitoring and promotion. The purpose of the evaluation was to review and share experiences with such programmes and to identify technical and operational changes to improve the usefulness of growth monitoring and promotion and to examine the sustainability of these activities. Priority areas for further operational research were identified and an attempt was made to build national capacity to conduct rapid anthropological assessments. A set of global findings, lessons learned and recommendations was agreed upon in a workshop held at Nairobi in May. The evaluation results were presented in a workshop held at headquarters in October which examined

implications of the evaluation for the development of nutrition policy and a new UNICEF strategy for nutrition-oriented information systems. A summary report was made available by the end of 1992 to guide country offices in the implementation of the new strategy in existing and new programmes.

207. The Evaluation Office conducted an evaluation of UNICEF emergency responses over the last year, which led to the formation of a senior-level task force that made a number of decisions modifying UNICEF policy in the operations area. One of the findings was that there are very few evaluations of UNICEF work in this area, although it accounted for one fifth of UNICEF programme expenditures in 1991. Since there is no standard methodology on how to evaluate emergency programmes, the Evaluation Office is devoting considerable resources to developing a methodology that can be applied in future evaluations of emergency programmes. The first application of this methodology (in Liberia) included a review of existing documents, interviews of key actors involved in the emergency response and a review of the linkages between UNICEF inputs and programme outputs. The impact, coverage and costs were assessed through a process of sentinel community surveillance carried out by teams of community members, NGOs and government officials.

208. A three-day consultation was held as the first UNICEF global-level meeting to focus exclusively on strategies and operational efforts in support of women's productive activities. Participants from UNICEF, other United Nations agencies, a variety of governmental organizations and NGOs came together to identify effective methodologies, mechanisms and strategies for supporting women in their productive role, to suggest effective monitoring and evaluation tools and to propose guidelines for future UNICEF policy in this area. A discussion paper which reviewed different experiences of support to women's productive activities and raised a number of strategic issues served as the input to the consultation. The group proposed overall objectives for UNICEF work in this area, along with a set of strategic principles to guide UNICEF programming in support of women's productive activities in the 1990s.

209. In 1992, the Evaluation Manual distributed in 1991 to support the institutionalization of evaluation and its role in improving programme development and implementation was published in French and Spanish language editions. To promote further exchange of views and lessons learned in the sector of evaluations, the Evaluation Newsletter continued to be published.

Programming and programme management systems

210. Over the past decade, there has been a manifold increase in both UNICEF expenditure and staff. The need for UNICEF to meet the requirements of accountability with regard to programme management and implementation puts a premium on its capacity to manage information in a systematic and cohesive manner. Since 1988, considerable work has been done to identify managerial needs and determine the course of action to meet them. The development of a programme management system was approved to build capacity for data management for supporting the country programme management requirements and for providing effective interfaces with headquarters.

211. In general, information requirements of field offices can be classified into two broad categories: (a) information available within UNICEF and

generated by its own processes; and (b) information available from outside UNICEF that must be acquired and stored by UNICEF. The priority and importance attached to different aspects of processing varies from office to office. However, it was found that all offices visited by the team have substantial scope for improvement in both areas, and that the development of uniform, easy and flexible systems would greatly help both programme and operations staff in reducing their day-to-day involvement with "paper processing" so that they could devote more energy to more substantive activities.

Programme communication

212. Communication and mobilization efforts in UNICEF programmes are concerned increasingly with challenges posed by the goals for children in the 1990s. Progress towards those goals will depend heavily on profound and sustained changes in attitudes and behaviour at various levels of society. Accordingly, an initiative at the global level has begun to examine national-scale mobilization experiences in several countries so that the lessons of these experiences may be organized into a coherent set of principles, allowing both replication and the identification of relevant skills training. Already, indications from the several studies under way are that the mobilizing dynamic can be sustained where the approach is an empowering one, building on a relevant motivation.

213. Clear connections to both decentralization and reaching the poorest are also emerging, since the goals for children in the 1990s need to be made real in local terms. Examples of this trend may be found in state- and municipal-level programmes of action, as in Brazil and Colombia. The trend towards the devolution of responsibilities for health, education and other social services to more local levels, as in the Philippines, has opened new opportunities for mobilization even to the neighbourhood level. In the United Republic of Tanzania, efforts have resulted in intense government-community collaboration. Some communities report impressive reductions in malnutrition and death among young children.

214. A further lesson to be learned even from the initial stages of the social mobilization case-studies is that important mobilizing skills are empowering, such as the facilitation of participatory processes (from decision-making and planning to implementation and monitoring and evaluation) or the more interactive, experiential approach to learning in schools or training programmes. Communication and mobilization are finding a natural alliance with the educación popular (popular education) approach developed in Latin America, with similar programmes in Africa developed specifically to build community leadership and change agent skills. There is also a symbiotic association with education for development and life skills initiatives, which represent the systematic practical application of the empowering principles designed to meet the needs and fit the realities of societies facing relatively rapid and often wrenching social, economic and political change.

215. Tools for thinking about and managing this change are crucial aspects of such empowerment. Cases under review so far suggest that a problem-solving approach, using a conceptual framework that identifies not only direct but even underlying and structural causes, is central to sustainability. Such a

framework for analysis is part of the UNICEF nutrition strategy and a natural channel for enhancing the role of communication and mobilization in UNICEF work.

216. To the extent that mobilization for social action requires knowledge in critical areas of CSD, Facts for Life provides a concise compendium of priority items of action-oriented guidance. After three years, in which the number of copies in more than 160 languages totalled almost 6 million, preparation of an updated and slightly expanded edition has been undertaken. This includes a new section on early childhood development. The revised version will be sponsored additionally by UNFPA, which should help to increase access to the extensive network of family planning organizations around the world, a network with considerable experience in communication and an unusually committed constituency.

217. A 1992 review of world-wide collaboration on Facts for Life after three years of publication revealed an enormous range of allies and partners engaged in action at the country level - from educators and the health services to religious and political leaders and the business community. To help such allies and partners further develop their own plans, the best UNICEF experiences are being brought together in a revision of All for Health, a companion book to Facts for Life. The new version seeks to provide examples and guiding principles for implementation from the actual experience with Facts for Life as part of an overall mobilization strategy. At a weeklong meeting in 1992, UNICEF practitioners mapped out a broad strategy for the contribution that Facts for Life could make to realizing NPAs. This strategy envisaged a crucial integrating role for Facts for Life at the country level, requiring relevant ministries, non-governmental allies and other concerned donor agencies to work together.

218. The meeting came to the conclusion that, with the goals for the 1990s and the Convention on the Rights of the Child providing the orientation, and the NPAs the country-level priorities for efforts for children, including the UNICEF programme of cooperation, the framework had been established for specific mobilization and communication initiatives such as Facts for Life, which had been designed to seize opportunities for mobilization. Coordination was built in through both the setting of objectives, and in the case of Facts for Life, through the agreement on content. Notwithstanding the overall convergence of disparate efforts, which was thus ensured, the strategy needed to leave room for flexibility of action, which was crucial to appeal to the ingenuity and creativity of partners that might have widely varying mandates and interests.

219. Another initiative, undertaken with the Child-to-Child Trust, has produced a version of Facts for Life for teachers and others who work with children with the aim of enlisting children, through a range of activities, in the communication of Facts for Life knowledge within their families and neighbourhoods and among their peers.

Non-governmental organizations

220. NGOs played a vital role in ensuring that the needs of children - especially the most disadvantaged - were high on the agendas of major international conferences in 1992. NGOs were particularly well represented at ICAAC. Both African and international NGOs - which are responsible for some

30 per cent of the aid to Africa - reiterated their desire to work with Governments in developing and implementing NPAs to achieve the goals set by the World Summit for Children. They also proposed the establishment of structures that would permit closer cooperation with OAU in the development of regional strategies in response to some of Africa's greatest threats, such as AIDS and armed conflicts.

221. At the same time, UNICEF continued to work closely with NGO groups and coalitions concerned with the reduction of gender disparity in education, the promotion of healthy lifestyles for youth, the participation of young people in health and development programmes and the protection of children caught in armed conflicts. Some 295 NGO representatives met in New York for a conference organized by UNICEF and the NGO Committee on UNICEF to discuss strategies to increase girls' access to education, stressing the importance for NGOs to assess carefully the effectiveness of their programmes as well as to advocate with Governments the adoption of special measures to overcome obstacles to girls' enrolling and remaining in school.

222. The World Alliance for Breast-feeding Action continued to promote the "baby-friendly" hospital initiative globally and strove to maintain and re-create a supportive environment to breast-feeding outside as well as inside hospitals through social mobilization. The first World Breast-feeding Week proved to be a major success in most countries throughout the world, providing an occasion for both UNICEF offices and NGOs to promote breast-feeding and the initiative. Other NGOs, such as WellStart and La Leche League International, played an important role in the training of hospital staff in the promotion, protection and support of breast-feeding. Many national NGOs also continue to offer their active support for the initiative; in Europe, they often play a leading role.

223. The NGO/UNICEF Coordinating Committee on Activities for Children in Eastern and Central Europe, created in 1991, became an effective means for coordinating responses to the needs of children in that region as well as supporting the development of new indigenous NGOs. A capacity-building seminar was organized by the International Federation of University Women in Estonia for NGOs from the three Baltic States. In Sofia, Bulgaria, participants from 17 Central and Eastern European countries gathered at a regional seminar on family-based alternatives to prevent child abandonment, organized jointly by DCI, ICCB, the International Social Service and UNICEF.

224. UNICEF also continued to work closely with NGOs in the field of emergencies through bilateral collaboration and direct assistance to affected communities. Chief among those were the Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere, Inc., Oxford Famine Relief Campaign, Save the Children and others. UNICEF also worked closely with international NGOs in widespread information sharing regarding emergency and ongoing relief activities.

225. UNICEF continued long-term programmes of collaboration with other key partners such as Rotary International, in its PolioPlus programme, and Junior Chamber International in CDD, with emphasis on ORT. In 1993, UNICEF looks forward to working with a number of non-governmental partners in the area of IDD.

Parliamentarians, religious leaders and personalities

226. Parliamentarians continued to show strong support for children in 1992 by placing children's issues at the top of global, national and regional agendas. UNICEF worked with parliamentarians towards universal implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and mobilization of action leading to the goals adopted at the World Summit for Children. Children's issues figured prominently at the Parliamentary Earth Summit held from 5 to 7 June at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Participants, including parliamentarians, religious leaders, scientists and artists from around the world adopted "The Rio Consensus", which stated that any society which cannot care for its children cannot regard its development as in any sense sustainable.

227. UNICEF continued its work with religious leaders in 1992. Particularly important was follow-up to the 1990 World Conference on Religion and Peace, which served as a prelude to the World Summit for Children. In 1992, religious leaders in many parts of the world drew attention to the needs of African children during the global commemoration of the Day of the African Child. Regional religious leaders met at Harare, Zimbabwe, in June to discuss a broad range of children's issues. Religious leaders and groups lent their support to the goals of the "baby-friendly" hospital initiative.

228. The global initiative of mayors as defenders of children was launched in early 1992 at the International Colloquium of Mayors held at Dakar, Senegal. Participants from around the world adopted the Dakar Declaration and Plan of Action and called on mayors to develop municipal plans of action within the framework of NPAs. The initiative urges mayors to improve the lives of urban children and work towards the achievement of the goals adopted at the World Summit for Children. An international meeting of mayors as defenders of children took place in November, at which 40 mayors from Canada, Italy, Nigeria and Senegal issued a message calling attention to the role of municipalities in implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child and in reaching the Summit goals.

229. UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Audrey Hepburn died in January 1993 at her home in Switzerland, following an operation for colon cancer in November 1992. As recently as September 1992, she had undertaken a mission to Somalia and to refugee camps in Kenya, followed by intensive and highly successful media briefings in Europe and North America. The Executive Director said in the announcement of her death:

> "Audrey was unique: as a movie star and as a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador. Moved by a profound love of children, she set repeatedly aside the comforts of home to visit some of the most deprived and often forgotten people of this planet, for whom she became an effective voice. Her eloquent and deeply moving appeals on their behalf helped raise not only funds but the conscience of the world community. The children of the world have lost a true friend, and an important and eloquent advocate."

230. UNICEF goodwill ambassadors, special representatives and other celebrity spokespersons continued active advocacy efforts for the world's children through print and broadcast interviews, speeches and appearances at events during 1992. Tetsuko Kuroyanagi's visit to Ethiopia in July generated good media coverage in

Japan and raised over $1 million for projects in Ethiopia. Roger Moore joined several events sponsored by National Committees and the Global Forum at the Earth Summit. Peter Ustinov, Liv Ullmann, Youssou N'Dour, Sir Edmund Hillary, Imran Khan and Julio Iglesias all made appearances and provided UNICEF advocacy for events planned by National Committees.

National Committees for UNICEF

231. National Committees for UNICEF continued to provide vital support to UNICEF, contributing more than 20 per cent of its overall budget, principally through sales of greeting cards and private sector fund-raising. National Committees also responded quickly to emergency appeals by providing additional funds, especially for Africa (most notably Somalia) and the former Yugoslavia. They developed new activities related to the "baby-friendly" hospital initiative, working with national and international NGOs, professional groups and national and local authorities. They expanded activities related to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and follow-up to the World Summit for Children, carrying out educational activities and disseminating information. In these areas, they also worked with a broad network of partners.

232. The consultation process between the UNICEF secretariat and National Committees continued to be refined and strengthened. The unique timing of the 1992 UNICEF Executive Board enabled National Committees to discuss Board-related issues in advance of the session at their own annual meeting, and several of them played active, constructive roles in areas that were highlighted by the process. The Committees reaffirmed their priority concern for Africa at a special conference during the annual meeting.

233. The information workshop held at Nice, France, in December brought together external relations officers from National Committees and the six UNICEF regional offices, with senior staff from the Division of Information (DOI) and the Division of Public Affairs. Intensive training was conducted on communicating with the media. At the first formal fund-raising workshop in three years, held at Torremolinos, Spain, in February it was decided that the workshop would focus on private sector fund-raising through annual meetings. The volunteer coordinators of National Committees followed up on their previous efforts to improve the network of volunteers for UNICEF in industrialized countries.

234. Special attention continued to be paid to the changing circumstances faced by National Committees in several Central and Eastern European countries. For example, a planning and coordination meeting was held at Sofia, Bulgaria, in December. The broader community of National Committees sought means to assist the establishment of new National Committees or to sustain existing Committees during the period of transition. Means were also explored to help create Committees in the newly industrialized countries in Asia.

235. In response to a request made by the 1990 Executive Board in relation to the evaluation and analysis of UNICEF external relations (E/ICEF/1990/13, decision 1990/14), work progressed on the drafting of a new recognition agreement between UNICEF and the National Committees. A task force was appointed by the Standing Group, which subsequently reviewed a draft. The new agreement will be discussed individually with Committees before it is presented

to the annual meeting of the National Committees and, subsequently, to the Executive Board.

Education for development

236. UNICEF activities in education for development marked a turning-point in 1992 with the approval by the Executive Board of a policy paper (E/ICEF/1992/14, decision 1992/25). The action broadened the scope of education for development, both in concept - to be a programme of education for social action for global children's issues - and in outreach - to include the involvement of educators in developing countries through UNICEF regional offices.

237. Two training workshops took place, one for National Committee education officers at Oxford, United Kingdom, and the other for curriculum planners and senior educators in the eastern and southern Africa region. Both workshops examined practical ways of exploring global issues (such as sustainable development, social justice, children's rights and conflict resolution) with children and young people in the countries represented.

238. Many of the teaching strategies have been compiled in a manual for teachers and youth facilitators that was tested in 22 countries. "Images", a video with accompanying suggestions for group work activities, was also produced; it explores images of people in developing countries projected by media and charity advertisements in industrialized countries.

239. Consultations with institutions, NGOs, United Nations and other international agencies, as well as with members of the professional educational community, continued throughout the year to develop, consolidate and implement education for development within UNICEF. The Standing Group of the National Committees recommended that, from 1993 onwards, education for development should have its own National Committee workshops, separate from those on information. This means that issues relating to the implementation of the UNICEF education for development policy can be addressed in a more systematic and professional way.

Information, communication and media relations

240. Two major concerns dominated the information and media work of UNICEF in 1992: supporting efforts to integrate the goals of the World Summit for Children into Agenda 21, the new global blueprint for development; and dealing with exploding emergencies in many parts of the world. Africa also figured prominently.

241. Thanks to effective advocacy, political commitment to the Summit goals was greatly strengthened by UNCED. Agenda 21, the overall plan of action that will guide environment and development strategies into the next century, incorporated the Summit goals for children, encouraged ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and supported the human-centred, poverty-alleviating development approach long espoused by UNICEF. The Conference received massive media coverage, and although most of the action took place in Brazil, it triggered events elsewhere, not least the arrival in New York of the Viking ship, Gaia, which carried messages from the world's children to Rio de Janeiro. The successful integration of children's issues into Agenda 21 should also prove

to be a major benefit to many external relations activities, including fund-raising, working with NGOs and developing new partnerships.

242. Increasing in number, volume and complexity, emergency situations in 1992 placed a taxing load on the UNICEF information staff not only in the field, but also in New York and Geneva. Led by the continuing, agonizing deterioration in the plight of the children in Somalia, the list of emergency countries got longer and the work of UNICEF more delicate.

243. Throughout the year, the urgency and level of media interest increased dramatically as situations worsened. Emergency information notes and press releases were issued regularly. Information staff took part in frequent assessment missions and urgent assignments, arranged and accompanied field trips for journalists and reported almost daily on relief efforts. The "week of tranquillity" in the former Yugoslavia, the fast-moving events in Somalia and the WHO/UNICEF missions to the former Soviet Union all generated great media interest, and UNICEF information personnel became a principal source of information to the international media in each case.

244. At a media meeting in support of ICAAC held in London in November, 20 pre-eminent British, French and other European journalists and experts on African affairs met to discuss problems affecting the continent's future, including debt and the economic crisis, democracy and Africa, and issues such as AIDS, poverty and urbanization. UNICEF also organized several media missions to Africa for journalists who later journeyed to Dakar for the Conference. The result was widespread coverage of ICAAC, especially in the European and African media. World-wide Television News broadcast footage of the Conference on world-wide satellite networks.

245. The 1993 State of the World's Children report was launched in Mexico City on 17 December at a well-attended news conference that elicited widespread global coverage. In association with Visnews and using more than six satellites, UNICEF transmitted footage of the launch to a record number of countries. A video news release on the launch was transmitted to all of North and South America, Europe and the Middle East, Asia, Australia, New Zealand and parts of Africa. A redesigned advance video package of related stories and footage was distributed to National Committees and country offices. Field offices and National Committees organized separate news conferences and briefings, often with representatives of major NGOs. In the United States alone, news conferences were held in 36 cities and received the best nationwide television coverage in recent years. Among those carrying extensive reports were ABC, CBS, CNN, PBS and scores of stations across the country. Such major papers as the Washington Post, the Los Angeles Times, the Miami Herald, the Boston Globe and the Baltimore Sun devoted columns and editorials to the launch. The report received equally impressive coverage elsewhere, with the story appearing on all major broadcast networks, including BBC, NHK, French TV 2, RAI, CBC, Televisa and TV Globo. Among the major newspapers carrying the report were El Pais, the Financial Times, the Daily Telegraph, La Repubblica, Corriere della Sera, the Globe and Mail, Yomiuri and Asahi Shimbun.

246. In 1992, UNICEF issued Children of the Americas, the first report ever published by a UNICEF regional office. A radio co-production with the BBC World Service was broadcast in Spanish before the launch. UNICEF officials

participated in a satellite radio programme which originated live from London, Sante Fe de Bogota and other locations in Latin America. DOI also assisted the United States Committee for UNICEF with a Miami-based news conference aimed at reaching Spanish-speaking residents of the United States. Spanish-language television satellite services broadcast the Miami activities throughout the Americas.

247. UNICEF continued to assist in the implementation of the goals of the World Summit for Children by mobilizing broadcast media to act as advocates for children. A new initiative, the International Children's Day of Broadcasting, was aimed at expanding UNICEF's role in developing television and radio co-productions with major broadcasters. The day was marked on and around Sunday, 13 December, in over 70 countries. An information kit and specially recorded television spots were distributed. The day is supported by the International Council of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, with membership from among international broadcast executives, and by regional television groups. An emerging trend in 1992 was the need to provide the media with source video footage on emergency situations, and a number of co-productions were undertaken with excellent results. This will be an increasingly important role for UNICEF in the years to come.

248. Among the co-productions initiated in 1992 was the "Growing Up" series, which records the birth of a number of children around the world and plans to follow them for 10 years, recording how environmental conditions shape their lives.

249. Other video co-productions with broadcast partners included those on Africa, the environment, the girl child, AIDS and micronutrients. UNICEF itself produced "The Bamako Initiative in Action"; two videos on the "baby-friendly" hospital initiative; spots on the Convention on the Rights of the Child that aired on CNN International; and a compilation of videos for the ninth World Food Day satellite teleconference.

250. Field offices were assisted in the production and distribution of their video materials. A clearing-house for country office television productions has been established at the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, in New Orleans, Louisiana (United States), to share information about video productions by country offices. Many countries submitted videos in 1992, and the first issue of the clearing-house newsletter was distributed.

251. Among print materials, apart from the quarterly First Call for Children, various information kits and special publications were produced, including those for ICAAC, the Earth Summit, the International Children's Day of Broadcasting and for Central and Eastern Europe. Progress of Nations, an annual statistical report of countries' progress towards the World Summit for Children goals, will be added to the list of regular publications in 1993. The DOI photo unit continued to provide photographs and slides to National Committees, field offices and others.

252. The need for training was identified as a priority in 1992. Information/communication training workshops are being developed to further the capacity of UNICEF to use the audiovisual media to achieve benefits for children and establish partnerships among UNICEF, international broadcasters, national agencies and the mass media.

Information and communication capacity-building

253. Through the Global Communication Support Fund, UNICEF increased its support for the development of creative new communication and social mobilization projects in support of the UNICEF programme objectives for the 1990s.

254. Emphasis was placed on projects that train and develop the capacity of developing country partners, such as journalists, social mobilization agents, creators of animated films and rural radio producers. Projects approved in 1992 included a joint UNICEF/FAO rural radio training project for francophone countries in West and Central Africa, a social mobilization training project in the Philippines, a global communication training project with the Radio Netherlands Training Centre and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, a seminar and workshop for producers of children's television programmes in Central America and a multimedia package to mobilize public opinion on the problems of children in the Americas. Ongoing projects also produced concrete results. The contract with Children's Television Workshop and Mexico's Televisa has now been signed for the production of 130 Spanish-language episodes of "Sesame Street" for use in Latin America and the Caribbean. The series will contain educational material based on UNICEF objectives in the region. The Bangladesh office has finalized the pilot episode of the animated film "Meena" with Hanna Barbera's Manila studios and is conducting field surveys to assess its impact on the target audience. The office also has produced an accompanying poster, comic book, leaflet and prototype models of "Meena" products for possible sale in South Asia. The first segment of the Ecuador animated film is nearing completion, with strong input from Walt Disney Productions.

255. The Global Communication Support Fund has been particularly successful in raising supplementary funding for a number of projects, such as the contribution of the Government of Norway to the "Meena" animated film project. Further funding will be needed for 1993 in view of the limited amount of general resources available. During the coming year, more effort will go into promoting the purpose of the Fund, the development of new capacity-building projects, especially in the area of training journalists, and in seeking ways to cross-fertilize existing projects in other geographical regions.

Fund-raising

256. Fund-raising efforts in 1992 were concentrated on reaching the targets set in the medium-term plan for 1992-1995. Particular efforts were made to encourage increases in contributions from developed countries that are not making a financial contribution to UNICEF commensurate with their financial capacity and from developing countries that have achieved substantial human, social and economic progress during the last decade. UNICEF also encouraged a general mobilization of international resources for NPAs. This effort included encouraging multilateral agencies, especially the international financial institutions, the European Community and NGOs, to channel funding through UNICEF and in support of NPAs.

257. In 1992, contributions to general resources reached $548 million, to regular supplementary-funded programmes $190 million and to emergencies $204 million, totalling a record high of $942 million, 6 per cent above the medium-term plan target for 1992 and an increase of 9 per cent over 1991. This progress was achieved by somewhat improved burden-sharing among donors. The traditionally large donors maintained high funding levels, while other donors increased their contributions to UNICEF. In particular, donors have responded generously to the current large number of complex emergencies. Although the increased level of emergency funding has not led to a reduction in the level of funding for regular supplementary funding programmes compared to 1991, it is of some concern to UNICEF that supplementary funding has not increased at the rate projected in the medium-term plan.

258. In 1992, UNICEF signed a memorandum of understanding with AfDB and the African Development Fund on working arrangements between the institutions. The agreement includes joint project identification, preparation, appraisal, implementation, supervision and post-evaluation in member States and cost-sharing in all but implementation, which will remain the responsibility of the regional bank. The UNICEF PFO will continue its work to facilitate the enactment of the agreement. It will also provide support to the regional offices in the Americas and in Asia for their efforts to increase collaboration with the respective regional banks. It is part of the effort to broaden the donor bases for UNICEF and for NPAs and to increase the dialogue with the regional banks and the World Bank, which are rapidly increasing the share of social sector lending in their lending portfolios.

259. Another innovative means to increase funding for the goals for the 1990s is the debt relief for children initiative. Since its inception, an equivalent of $10 million has been generated in local currencies, the greatest part in 1992. The size and scope of the initiative is expected to grow significantly. In general, donors recognize initiatives such as debt relief for children as a mechanism to support national efforts for human development activities and poverty alleviation. Highly indebted developing countries are increasingly adopting mechanisms to facilitate the release of local currency freed by the reduction in the debt service burden. UNICEF will strengthen its efforts for the debt relief for children initiative, especially in Africa.

260. With UNICEF, Greeting Card and related operations (GCO) has the mandate to carry out private sector fund-raising, which is done in close coordination with PFO when the financing of supplementary-funded projects is involved.

261. The suggestion arising from the human development initiative that 20 per cent of aid flows be for human development and basic social services has been set as a target in UNICEF advocacy for the reallocation of aid flows for basic social services.

262. Technical and definitional issues relating to aid reporting make it difficult to gain a complete assessment of the aid resources currently available for basic social services. The UNICEF/UNDP framework for the review of aid flows for human development priorities was presented to the DAC Working Group on Statistics in February 1992. In February 1993, UNICEF will host a meeting in Paris for interested parties, including WHO, the Subcommittee on Nutrition of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, the Advisory Committee for the Coordination of Information Services, OECD and the World Bank to discuss the conceptual and data issues involved with the aim of arriving at compatible approaches for reviewing aid flows to the social sectors.

263. UNICEF will encourage donors to undertake a review of their aid allocations in support of children, as suggested in the Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children and the Consensus of Dakar. As Africa remains the region of highest priority for UNICEF, particular efforts will be made to discuss general follow-up and implementation of the Consensus with the donor community.

Greeting Card and related operations

264. The primary mission of GCO is to raise funds for children from the private sector through sales of cards and other products and through private sector fund-raising activities, in cooperation with National Committees for UNICEF, field offices and other partners world wide. Through these activities, as well as through exhibits and promotions, GCO also makes people aware of UNICEF, its aims and activities and gives them the opportunity to take part in the work of UNICEF.

265. During its 1991-1992 season, GCO contributed $82.2 million to UNICEF general resources, which includes the net operating income from the sale of UNICEF greeting cards and other products of $61 million; net operating income of $32 million from private sector fund-raising activities, including special fund-raising events ($0.9 million) offset by $10.7 million for exchange rate adjustments, replenishment of the special operating account, accounts receivable write-offs and prior years' adjustments.

266. The global recession, a postal strike in Canada and the difficult economic and political circumstances in Central and Eastern Europe unfortunately negatively influenced GCO results in terms of sales volume. Gross proceeds in dollar terms were affected further by the strengthening of the United States dollar.

267. In spite of the adverse conditions during the 1991-1992 season, the consolidated net income of $82.2 million is the highest ever in GCO history, $5.6 million or 7.3 per cent higher than the previous year. Based on provisional results for the 1992-1993 season, the forecasted GCO consolidated net income is projected to be $87.1 million, an estimated increase of $4.9 million or 6.0 per cent over 1991. These favourable results were accomplished in large part through the dedicated efforts of thousands of

volunteers and staff of National Committees for UNICEF, UNICEF field offices and other sales partners in 145 countries around the world.

268. In 1992, GCO conducted a year-long internal management review and adapted its organizational structure to strengthen its overall capabilities to provide even better assistance to National Committees and UNICEF field offices in their efforts to increase the financial resources available to UNICEF from the private sector.

269. GCO spearheaded the development of the UNICEF corporate partnership strategy and guidelines designed to facilitate fund-raising and product marketing alliances with corporate partners, as well as to promote and protect the UNICEF identity world wide.

270. Six regional greeting card workshops were held during 1992 for North America and the Pacific (United States), Asia (United States), Europe (Turkey), Latin America and the Caribbean (Argentina) and the Middle East and Africa (Bahrain). During these workshops, as well as at other regional marketing meetings, UNICEF and its partners selected cards and other products for the next season, reported on the financial results of the previous season and shared their sales and marketing experience and expertise.

271. Implementation of the Central and Eastern European National Committees Development Programme started in 1992 to allow countries in the region to strengthen and develop their general advocacy, information dissemination, sales network expansion and donor constituency-building.

272. As a result of the expanded mandate of GCO, private sector fund-raising has been strengthened to facilitate the development and expansion of fund-raising by National Committees and field offices. In 1992, GCO reviewed its private sector fund-raising support to National Committees in industrialized countries and also identified, in agreement with UNICEF representatives and regional directors, 31 developing countries with potential for private sector fund-raising.

273. With GCO support, National Committees and UNICEF field offices around the world were able to expand or initiate direct mail programmes, which are a growing source of revenue for UNICEF from the public. New appeals were launched in Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand and the Republic of Korea. In addition, GCO produced direct mail premiums, such as "Review of the Year" and "Chance for a Child"; fund-raising kits on country programmes of cooperation in Bolivia, China, Ethiopia and Mali; and another fund-raising kit entitled "Children: Innocent Victims of War" for emergency appeals.

274. A fund-raising workshop with National Committees was held in Spain in 1992. UNICEF also participated in two other meetings with National Committees, the Working Group on Private Sector Fund-Raising in Denmark and a meeting in the Netherlands during the taping of the Danny Kaye International Children's Awards programme, to exchange ideas and coordinate planning for private sector fund-raising.

275. GCO continued to implement the Fund-raising Development Programme, initiated in 1991, during 1992. The programme's objective is to assist National Committees and UNICEF field offices in increasing their capacity for private sector fund-raising and in building donor constituencies. In 1992, 125,000 new donors were acquired, including 27,000 monthly pledge donors. To date, 10 National Committees and three field offices in 15 countries have benefited from this investment programme, and a total investment of $3.4 million has generated immediate returns of $8.4 million, with substantial potential for the future.

276. In 1992, GCO reviewed over 100 proposals for special events, directed projects with fund-raising potential to National Committees and field offices and provided implementation support. GCO also oversaw the production of the 1992 Danny Kaye International Children's Awards programme, which was held in the Netherlands and sponsored in part by KLM Royal Dutch Airlines. Children from 23 countries participated in the event, which was hosted by UNICEF Goodwill Ambassadors Roger Moore and the late Audrey Hepburn. The event was made into a 100-minute television programme and broadcast in over 20 countries. GCO also developed support from the football (soccer) community to build upon the existing relationships with the International Football Federation, which last year produced what will be a quadrennial benefit match in the year following each World Cup. GCO also prepared and distributed a Special Events Manual to over 30 National Committees and field offices, developed additional celebrity support for fund-raising and played a role in the initiation of preparations for the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of UNICEF in 1996.

277. In 1992, GCO planned and developed more than 20 different exhibitions in Europe, the United States, Latin America, Asia and Africa. GCO also played a leading role in the development, design and production of a wide array of information and advocacy materials for the "baby-friendly" hospital initiative and for World Breast-feeding Week, including print and electronic media campaigns, exhibits and a greeting card produced especially for the initiative featuring a work by Pablo Picasso, "Maternity". Other projects included the preparation and production of an exhibit, "Children of the Rainforest", installed at the site of UNCED at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This was accompanied by a special series of five greeting cards featuring photographs of Brazilian children by world-renowned photographer Mirella Ricciardi. An exhibit entitled "A Future - Every Child's Right" was installed for ICAAC. The exhibit is scheduled to travel to eight locations in Africa in 1993. A variety of other thematic displays were developed to accompany international conferences on children, water and the environment, ARI and AIDS.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Overview

278. Strengthening the human resource capabilities of UNICEF continues to be one of the organization's critical operational priorities. The World Summit for Children established a specific blueprint for action in the 1990s which UNICEF has used to formulate short- and long-term programme goals and management strategies for their implementation. Using the organization's goals and strategies, the secretariat can now devise a systematic and rigorous approach to

human resources management to meet the emerging new dimensions of UNICEF staffing requirements.

279. The budget format reference group had several working sessions with UNICEF and successfully completed the work mandated by the Executive Board in decision 1991/30 (E/ICEF/1991/15). All the recommendations of the reference group were endorsed by the Executive Board in decision 1992/36 (E/ICEF/1992/14). The recommendations that influenced the preparation of the proposed 1994-1995 administrative and programme support budget were those in decision 1992/36 on the structure and format of the budget documents; the criteria for core versus project posts; the criteria for reclassification of senior-level and representative posts; and, in decision 1992/37, the criteria for extension of the 6 per cent recovery charge to supplementary-funded emergency programmes. UNICEF found it particularly useful to be able to validate all these recommendations against both existing and proposed posts throughout the organization. This has helped the secretariat to reach a conclusion on the appropriate funding source of posts and the level of senior posts and representative posts both at headquarters and in the field.

280. Under the direction of the Deputy Executive Director, Operations, and the Budget Planning and Review Committee, UNICEF conducted an extensive review of all headquarters and field offices for the preparation of the revised 1992-1993 and proposed 1994-1995 administrative and programme support budgets (E/ICEF/1993/AB/L.1).

281. The major issues addressed in these budgets are the proposal by UNICEF to migrate from the Wang platform to another computer platform; the reduction of a number of posts at New York headquarters; reorganization of the Programme Division and DOP and the creation of an Office of Emergency Programmes and an Office of Social Policy and Economic Analysis; and implementation of actions requested at the 1991 and 1992 sessions of the Executive Board. The financial implications of the Executive Director's proposal for New York headquarters office accommodation will be included in the administrative and programme support budget should the Executive Board approve the Executive Director's proposals (E/ICEF/1993/AB/L.9).

B. Income and expenditure

282. Total income was $938 million in 1992, the first time UNICEF income has exceeded $900 million (see fig. I). This was $108 million more than the $830 million total income estimated in the 1992 medium-term plan and $131 million (16 per cent) more than total income in 1991.

283. Table 9 and figure III show the breakdown of income by source. In 1992, income from Governments, intergovernmental organizations and the United Nations accounted for 75 per cent of total income, the balance being non-governmental income.

284. General resources income in 1992 was $548 million, $30 million more than the amount estimated in the 1992 medium-term plan. General resources income for 1992 was also $42 million (8 per cent) higher than in 1991.

Table 9. UNICEF income by source of funding

(In millions of United States dollars)

	1989	1990	1991	1992
General resources	423	531	506	548
Supplementary funds (non-emergency)	187	223	165	186
Subtotal	610	764	671	734
Emergency supplementary funds	57	57	136	204
Total	659	821	807	938

Figure I

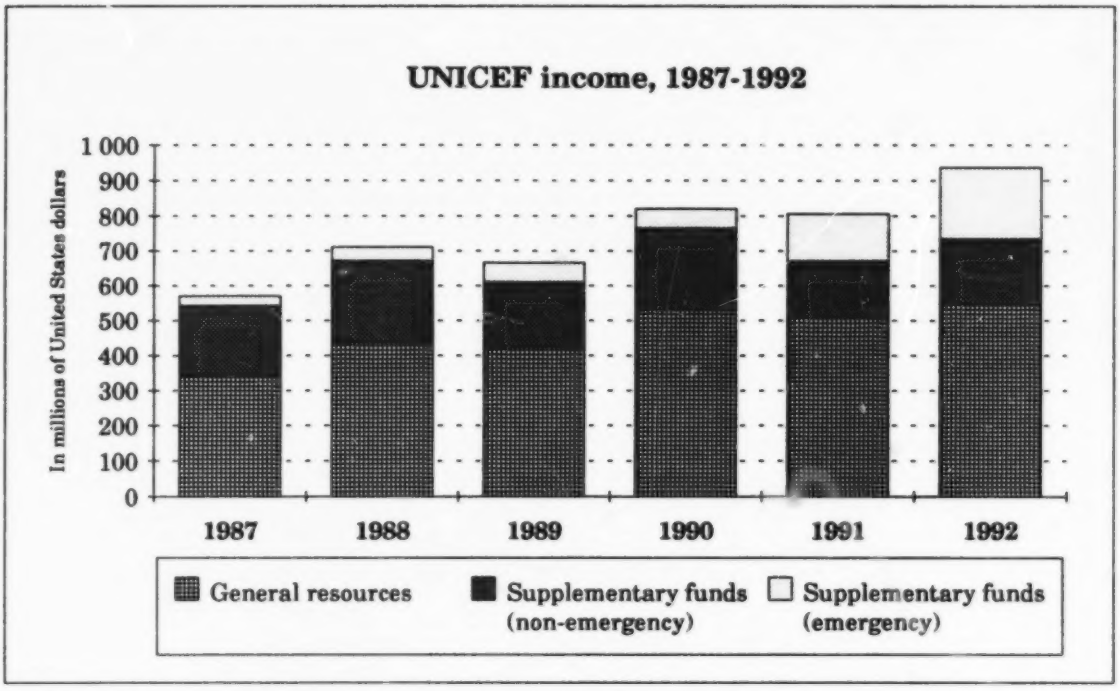


Figure II

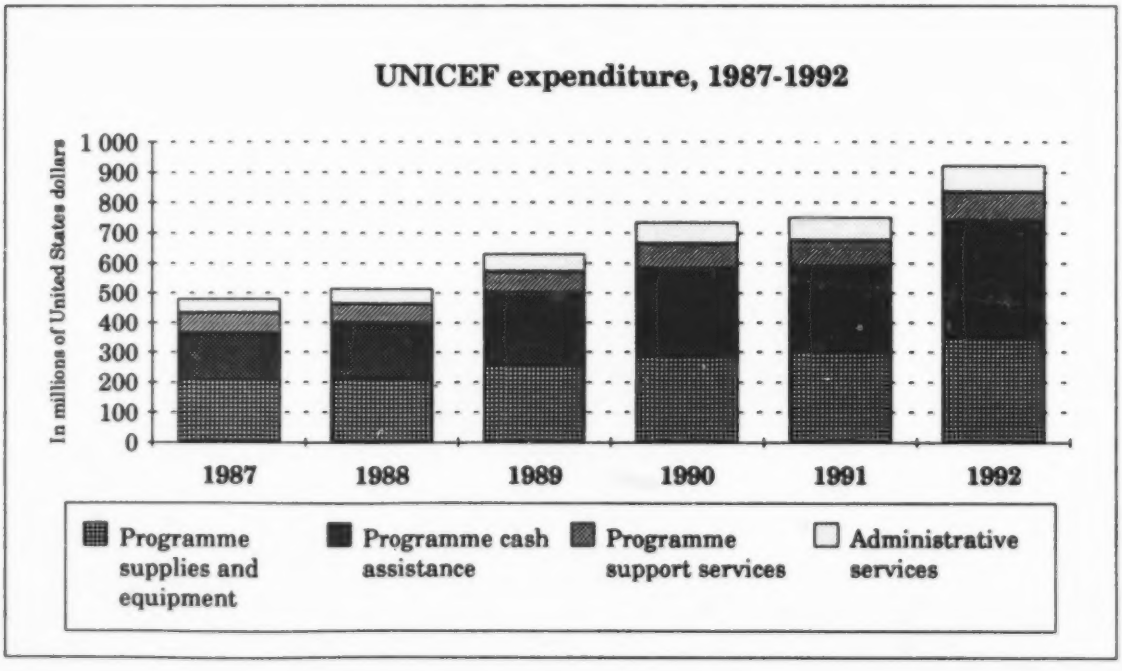


Figure III

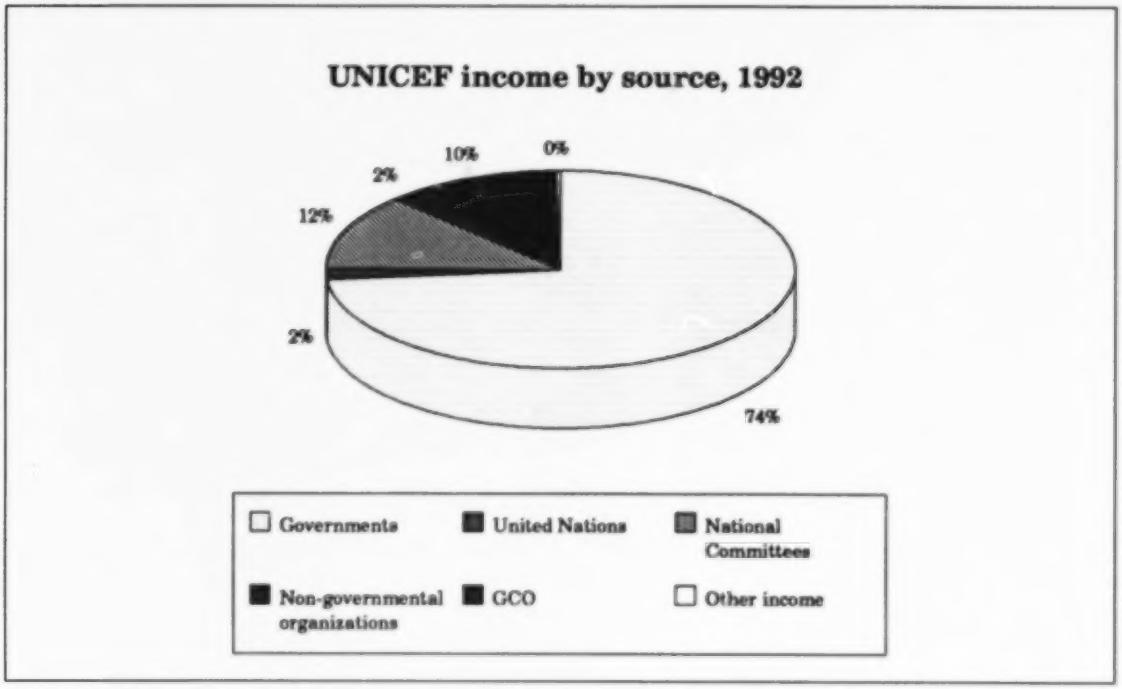
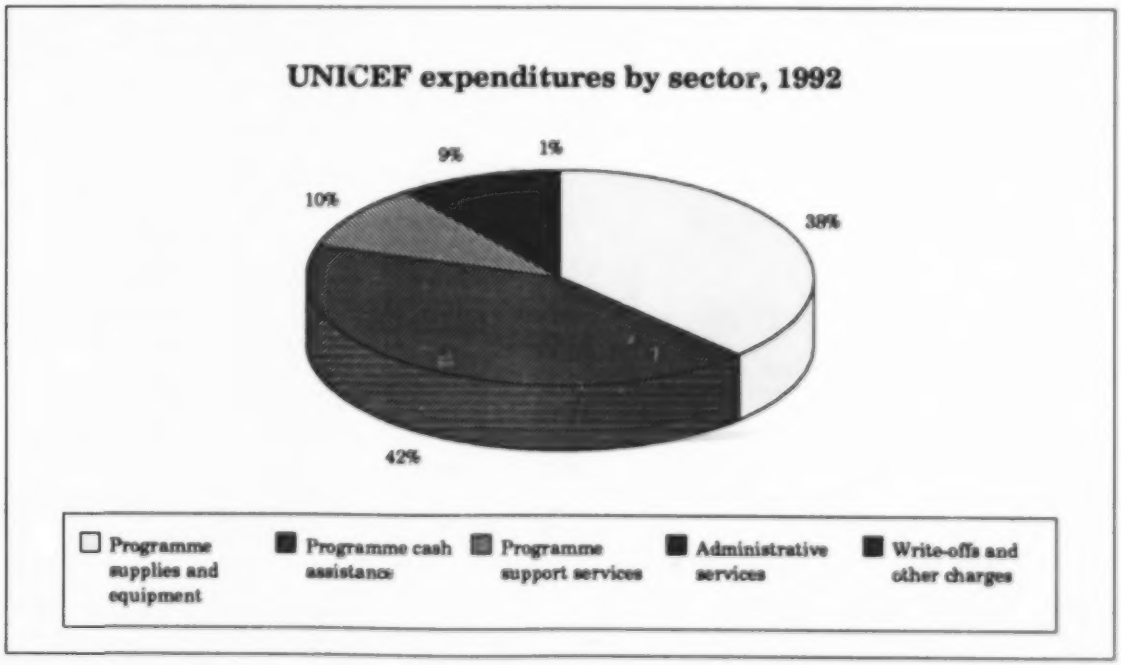


Figure IV



285. Total income from supplementary funds was $390 million in 1992. This was $78 million more than the medium-term plan, and $89 million greater than 1991. Contributions to supplementary-funded emergency programmes were again at an unprecedented high level in 1992. Supplementary funds contributions for emergencies in 1992 were $204 million, including $41 million for Somalia, $37 million for Iraq, $23 million for the former Yugoslavia, $17 million for Kenya, $15 million for the Sudan and $14 million for Angola. Non-emergency supplementary funds income was $168 million in 1992. This was $46 million less than the medium-term plan, but $21 million greater than in 1991.

286. In 1992, total expenditures totalled $932 million (see table 10 and fig. II). Programme expenditure for 1992 was $744 million, which was $33 million more than the 1992 medium-term plan amount. In 1992, supplies and equipment accounted for 47 per cent of total programme expenditure and cash assistance accounted for 53 per cent (see fig. IV). Total programme expenditures for 1992 were $153 million (26 per cent) greater than in 1991. Budget expenditures for programme support services and administrative services in 1992 amounted to $178 million, which was $7 million less than the medium-term plan.

287. The financial results for 1992 are detailed in the interim financial report (E/ICEF/1993/AB/L.7). The financial medium-term plan (E/ICEF/1993/3) provides the financial projections for 1993-1996.

Table 10. Expenditure by type of input

(In millions of United States dollars)

	1989	1990	1991	1992
Programme expenditure				
Supplies and equipment (including freight)	259	289	298	352
Cash assistance	242	296	293	392
Total, Programme expenditure	501	585	591	744
Administrative expenditure				
Programme support services	71	81	86	92
Administrative services	58	68	75	86
Total, Administrative expenditure	129	149	161	178
Write-offs and other charges	3	5	3	10
Total, Expenditure	633	739	755	932

C. Financial management

Follow-up to audit recommendations

288. UNICEF continues to place a high priority on taking action on audit recommendations. In compliance with General Assembly resolution 47/211 of 23 December 1992, document E/ICEF/1993/AB/L.3 reports on the steps UNICEF has taken in response to the recommendations of the Board of Auditors. The same document also describes the measures taken to strengthen the independence and effectiveness of the internal audit function.

Review of financial accountability in UNICEF

289. The interdivisional working group on financial accountability continued its work throughout 1992. The working group's mandate is: (a) to define more clearly external and internal accountability at the operational level; (b) to develop further the concept of "value for money" or disciplined use of financial resources; (c) to redefine or clarify lines of responsibility for financial authority and control; and (d) to establish or review relevant policies, regulations, rules, instructions and procedures.

290. The working group on financial accountability has made several recommendations to the Deputy Executive Director, Operations, on the issues of external and internal accountability. Regarding internal accountability, the working group has proposed a procedure for the formal delegation of financial authority and financial accountability from the executive level down to the operational level. The working group will continue to meet on a regular basis in 1993 to translate its recommendations into the required regulations, rules, instructions and procedures.

D. Human resources management

Staffing

291. As of 31 December 1992, UNICEF had a total of 6,288 staff members, comprising 1,257 international Professionals (563 core, 694 non-core); 54 government-sponsored; 799 national Professional officers (204 core, 595 non-core); and 4,178 General Service staff (1,391 core, 2,787 non-core). These staff were assigned to 207 locations in 115 countries world wide. Of the staffing complement, 35 per cent of Professionals are women, 65 per cent of Professionals are from developing countries and 82 per cent of all staff serve at field locations.

292. For further information, the Executive Director will present his annual report to the Executive Board on the composition of all international Professional core staff and international project staff as of 1 January 1993 (E/ICEF/1993/CRP.4).

Table 11. Professional staff members by gender and grade

(As of 31 December 1992)

Grade level	International Professionals			All Professionals a/		
	Women (A)	Total (B)	Ratio (A)/(B)	Women (A)	Total (B)	Ratio (A)/(B)
USG/ASG	1	4	25.0	1	4	25.0
D1/L6-D2/L7	15	89	16.9	15	89	16.9
P/L/N 4-5	191	653	29.2	217	721	30.1
P/L/N 1-3	256	565	45.3	526	1 296	40.6
Total	463	1 311	35.3	759	2 110	36.0

a/ International Professionals (including Junior Professional Officers (JPOs), plus national Professional officers.

Human resources planning

293. In connection with the budget review process and in the context of the organization's goals and strategies, UNICEF is well on its way to formulating a comprehensive human resources plan which will enable it:

(a) To forecast medium- to long-term human resources requirements;

(b) To prepare existing staff to meet these needs through redeployment, training and staff development;

(c) Where necessary, to selectively search global labour markets, seeking the "brightest and best" for UNICEF.

294. To fulfil its redefined role, DOP in 1992 announced its revised structure, tailored to human resources planning. Under the new structure, responsibilities have been more clearly defined within two separate yet complementary functional areas of human resources management: human resources planning and development (HRPD); and human resources administration (HRA).

295. HRPD encompasses training, staff development and recruitment and placement; it is responsible for determining the organization's current and medium-term staffing requirements and identifying staff of the highest calibre and potential to fill these needs. It also ensures that staff maintain the highest professional capability in a changing scene, both for current and future responsibilities. HRA encompasses the personnel services and compensation and classification functions. HRA is responsible for managing conditions of service, terms of employment and compensation and classification.

Career development directory

296. In the context of the human resources plan, a computerized directory of Professional staff profiles was established to give a more accurate picture of available talents and skills and to establish relatively objective and scientific bases for administering forward-looking strategies in career development, training and rotation. The directory is complemented by a set of generic job descriptions that define the functions of existing and planned posts. Both moves facilitate talent searches and recruitment and help staff members to plan their own career paths.

Compensation and classification

297. Three fundamental components of human resources planning were put in place in 1992:

(a) Development, establishment and implementation of a new job classification policy and procedures;

(b) Functional classifications of posts and staff, which facilitate the matching of qualified staff to posts;

(c) Development of generic job descriptions for all major functional groups (operations, external relations, country programme management, sectoral programme/project management, etc.).

298. Coincident with these developments, DOP also carried out major exercises in:

(a) Enhancing the quality, efficiency and consistency of job classification practices;

(b) Defining more clearly the responsibilities and accountability of posts;

(c) Standardizing post titles and the functional grouping of posts.

299. Through decisions 1991/30 (E/ICEF/1991/15) and 1992/36 (E/ICEF/1992/14), the Executive Board mandated UNICEF to carry out a job classification review of all senior posts at the D-1/2 and L-6/7 levels, as well as those of country representative posts, applying the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) Master Classification Standard. This exercise has now been completed and the results are included in the proposed 1994-1995 administration and programme support budget (E/ICEF/1993/AB/L.1).

Recruitment and placement

300. A total of 557 long- and short-term recruitment actions were processed in 1992, including actions for emergency countries. The total figures include both long- and short-term appointments, as well as those of JPOs. As a result of efforts to improve the representation of female staff in the organization, more appointments of women than men were made in 1992. External recruitment appointments reached 55.1 per cent for women candidates and 44.9 per cent for

men. The proportion is less favourable for internal placement, with 42.3 per cent for women as compared to 57.7 per cent for men.

301. Proactive recruitment activities to identify suitable candidates included recruitment missions (in addition to those to a number of major universities and institutions) to the former Czechoslovakia, France, Italy and Latin America, which enabled the identification of suitable candidates for the external roster. Future recruitment missions are scheduled for the MENA region and selected countries and will primarily target female candidates.

302. The year 1992 was marked by a resurgence of emergencies in an unprecedented number of countries, resulting in tremendous staffing demands. The effectiveness of the UNICEF response to such emergencies was due in part to the rapid redeployment of existing staff and consultants, as well as the recruitment on an urgent basis of specialized staff to cope with the particular needs of emergency operations.

Safety and staff security

303. UNICEF staff serve in countries with diverse conditions of work and life. In 1992, staff delivered emergency humanitarian aid to several countries plagued by conflict or disaster, most notably Afghanistan, Angola, Cambodia, Iraq, Liberia, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Somalia, the Sudan, the former Yugoslavia and Zaire. The paramount concern of UNICEF is the safety and security of every staff member serving in such locations and of their families. As a part of the proposed administrative and programme support budget, the Executive Director has proposed the establishment of the post of a UNICEF Security Coordination Officer, who would be based in New York and advise offices on security issues, constantly monitor conditions world wide and coordinate rapid response (precautions, evacuation, etc.) to any situations that threaten the safety and security of staff.

Training

304. There were continued qualitative and quantitative improvements in staff training during 1992 owing to better capacity to plan, implement and follow-up training at country, regional and headquarters levels. By the end of 1992, UNICEF had completed 36,000 person-days of training. This represents an organization-wide average of six person-days of training per staff member, the highest in any United Nations agency and impressive by any standard.

305. New training initiatives were undertaken on gender programming, safe motherhood and staff orientation on HIV/AIDS. Consolidation of previous training was evident in the areas of nutrition, water supply and sanitation and education, often including government and other counterparts. The process of finalizing NPAs was reinforced through workshops on the programme process, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and a seminar on cost analysis run by the London School of Economics.

306. UNICEF continues to play an active role in inter-agency training through the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operations), the Subcommittee on Training of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions and the JCGP Subgroup on Personnel and Training. Inter-agency

initiatives included: (a) field coordination for senior United Nations representatives; (b) UNDP/DHA courses on disaster management; (c) HIV/AIDS in the workplace; and (d) a common curriculum for orientation of new United Nations system staff.

E. Supply operations

307. UNICEF supply operations in 1992 accounted for 47 per cent of the dollar value of programme assistance. The Supply Division also provided procurement services to Governments, donors, NGOs and other United Nations agencies, which complemented UNICEF programmes of assistance to the value of $51.6 million. The Supply Division is involved in all procurement actions, whether related to procurement in developing countries, to supplies provided through the UNICEF warehouse at Copenhagen or to purchase from suppliers for direct delivery to field programmes.

308. During 1992, the redesign of the supply data-processing systems continued, with emphasis on warehouse operations. A steering committee was formed to guide the redesign, with phase I consisting of issue order receipt and confirmation, inventory management, production planning and scheduling systems installed as planned. Hardware was upgraded to ensure the appropriate level of support to system users. Phase II was initiated and included modules such as picking and packing and receiving and shipping, among others.

309. Procurement in developing countries in 1992 was $107 million, based on the UNDP definition for developing countries. Total procurement in 1992 was $372 million, as compared with $384.5 million in 1991. The Supply Division will continue to ensure that both developing countries and under-utilized major donor countries are given the possibility of participating in UNICEF contracts through the established procedures for international tendering.

310. Emergency shipments comprised a large share of the Supply Division workload during 1992. Orders valued at approximately $75 million were processed, including some $13 million provided from the Supply Division warehouse at Copenhagen.

311. In 1992, the UNDP Inter-Agency Procurement Services Office moved into the west wing of the extension of UNICEF offices at the Supply Division warehouse provided by the Government of Denmark. The east wing extension is occupied by UNICEF. The completed facility was inaugurated by Mr. Poul Schluter, the former Prime Minister of Denmark, in the presence of the Administrator of UNDP and the Executive Director of UNICEF, in a ceremony attended by parliamentarians, members of the diplomatic community and the press. On 5 October, the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment of the warehouse at the Copenhagen free port was celebrated.

F. Administrative management services

312. The Office of Administrative Management (OAM) provides administrative and legal guidance and support for UNICEF field offices, in addition to administrative management and travel services for New York headquarters.

313. The Basic Cooperation Agreement (BCA) project is currently administered as part of the work of the Office of the Director of OAM. The main purpose of the BCA project is to enable OAM to cope with the temporary and substantial increase in workload relating to the implementation of the BCA. The demands concerning the BCA from field offices, which rely on guidance and support from headquarters, were substantial during 1992 and are expected to be very heavy again in 1993. The limited number of staff assigned to the BCA project have had to cope with the qualitative and quantitative workload arising from the need to manage, guide and support the negotiation of more than 120 BCAs.

314. In compliance with Executive Board decision 1992/35 (E/ICEF/1992/14) relating to headquarters office accommodation, OAM has continued to negotiate and refine several of the most attractive proposals that have been made, including possible options in Westchester County and New York City, in order to improve further their financial and other aspects. The Executive Director's recommendation on headquarters offices accommodation is contained in E/ICEF/1993/AB/L.9.

315. The commitment by the Executive Director to increase fivefold over the next five years the number of common premises in the field was vigorously pursued by the OAM Field Services Section. OAM provided technical, management and legal support to the 28 field offices currently involved in the construction of common premises, in cooperation with other United Nations agencies. Of those, construction was completed in two offices, work was begun at three other locations and preliminary planning work was initiated on behalf of over 23 offices interested in establishing common premises. OAM also supported the construction of new UNICEF field offices and assisted in the relocation, renovation, maintenance, administration and leasing arrangements of UNICEF real estate property and office premises world wide.

316. Security needs in the field have increased dramatically in recent years, and this trend is expected to continue. Because of the deteriorating security situation in certain countries, several houses were looted and some offices demolished. OAM assisted in the establishment of new premises, ordering security equipment and ensuring that staff were able to receive compensation for their lost personal effects, particularly at duty stations such as Somalia, where staff were evacuated and their homes looted and ransacked. OAM continues to liaise with the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator and the UNDP Field Security Section to keep field offices abreast of the latest approved security measures.

317. The Headquarters Services Section of OAM provided administrative and management services to New York headquarters in relation to office space planning and renovation, building maintenance operations, administrative procurement, maintenance and inventory control of headquarters equipment, supplies, mail and pouch, documents and reproduction services, as well as reception and conference services.

318. To maximize the effective utilization of office space at UNICEF House, the construction of private offices and the reconfiguration of workstations were performed during the period under review. Negotiations were completed with the landlord of One Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza to lease 15,145 square feet of additional office space to accommodate staff being relocated from UNICEF House. A

supplemental lease agreement was duly executed and included an extension of the original lease for 23,528 square feet of office space up to 31 August 1994, with an option to extend the lease further, up to 31 August 1995.

319. A comprehensive inventory of all non-expendable property was conducted at New York headquarters and bar-code tags were affixed to all items, which are now compiled in a new database system.

320. Closer monitoring of a paper recycling programme for environmental reasons has resulted in the increased collection of waste-paper for recycling.

G. Information resources management

321. A new version of the standard field office computer system was developed and released, providing for tighter financial control of budgets and obligations. Good progress has been made in defining the specifications for the next-generation standard field office computer system, which will be designed for improved support to programme and project management.

322. The final components of the central financial and accounts system project are being completed. The travel system was implemented at headquarters in mid-1992, with the administrative budget, electronic payment, personal advances and recoveries and general ledger registration systems to be implemented early in 1993.

323. An interdivisional task force has begun an evaluation of the United Nations integrated management information system (IMIS), with a view to the adoption of those parts that might fit UNICEF requirements.

324. Planning for the replacement of the minicomputers at headquarters began with a request for information from major vendors, the results of which were used to plan the configuration of the new computer platform and to prepare budget proposals.

325. Some 30 field offices have started implementing local-area telecommunications networks (LANs), linking previously independent personal computers to enable better communication and use of computer facilities within the office.

H. Internal audit

326. The Office of Internal Audit reviews compliance with rules and regulations and the efficiency, economy and effectiveness of UNICEF operations. Each year on a selective basis, a cross-section of operational and programme activities in UNICEF offices is reviewed.

327. Although the focus of audit interventions continues to be in the field, internal auditors are increasingly interacting at various New York headquarters levels. The outcome of audit findings are reviewed by the Internal Audit Committee, whose function was redirected in 1991 to perform the role expected of such a committee. The Committee is convened four times a year.

328. Since 1991, the auditors have successfully assumed a secondary advisory role. Therefore, their experience and knowledge are more frequently drawn upon in committees and task forces assigned to systems development and other management review tasks. The auditors have managed to make substantive contributions without compromising their independence.

329. The Office of Internal Audit and the Internal Audit Committee have taken a number of steps to ensure that auditees implement all audit recommendations promptly and fully. An executive directive was issued to this effect in 1991. In 1991-1992, the Office of Internal Audit developed a constructive partnership with some regional offices and participated in representatives' meetings.

330. Regular interaction between the auditors and the New York headquarters divisions has also been established. This has helped to clarify the role of internal audit to staff performing other functions and has also created awareness among the auditors about the expectations and concerns of the other groups. More focus on programme review and corporate priorities will be continued in 1993. A programme officer from New York headquarters has been appointed in the Office of Internal Audit to assist in this process.

Notes

1/ A/CONF.151/26, chap. I, sect. 1, annex II, para. 6.24.